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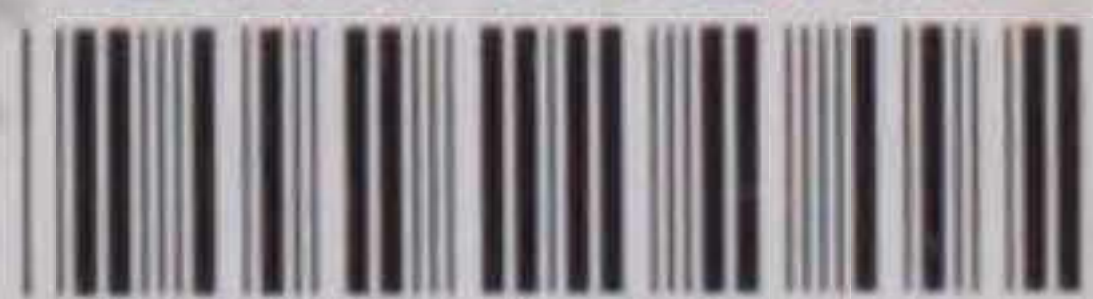
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Yeshvantrao Chitnis – Raja Pratapsinh

Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala. Sviya Mala No. 103

RAJA PRATAPSIKH

OF

SATARA

1818 — 1839

*Select documents from the Satara Residency Papers,
Peshwa Daftar, Poona and the Elphinstone
Papers, India Office Library, London.*

Edited by

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D.V.POTDAR



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के. ज. व. वा. पोतदार,
ग्रंथ संग्रह

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FOREWORD

The B. I. S. Mandala is happy in presenting this volume of original documents on "Raja Pratapsinh of Satara" by Dr. R. D. Choksey to its readers. Dr. Choksey, who has been working on the socio-economic and administrative history of Western India in the 19th century for the last several years, has collected these documents from the Elphinstone papers, preserved at the India Office Library, London and the Satara Residency correspondence deposited in the Alienation Office, Poona. He has arranged these documents with a view to narrating the sordid story of the rise and fall of the new Satara state, a creation entirely of the British, after the conquest of Peshwa's territories in 1818.

Though the routine work of the B. I. S. Mandala is generally conducted in Marathi, it has no bias against publishing anything in English. Every thing depends upon the authors who contribute. As a matter of fact it has published long ago 'Historical Miscellany' in English and English Records on 'Shivaji' through its sub-committee Shivacharitra Karyalaya. It has also published a number of articles in English and summarised others in English.

Now with this book, the B. I. S. Mandala proposes to publish a series of English records dealing with the 19th century history of Western India, and it is looking forward to get maximum co-operation from Dr. Choksey and other scholars who are working on English records. Such works would enable students to assess the activities of the British in terms of social change during the British era of Indian history.

The B. I. S. Mandala is thankful to Dr. Choksey for allowing it to publish this book in its 'Sviya Mala' series. He was kind enough to secure financial assistance from the University of Poona and the Nowrosjee Wadia College, Poona for the publication of this book.

Shivajayanti, }
26-3-1970 }

Secretary,
B. I. S. Mandala.

के. न. म. व. या. बोसदास

ग्रंथ संग्रह

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The Mandala also deals in all the published works on History and allied subjects of (1) Govt. of India, (2) The Maharashtra State, (3) The Andhra State, (4) The Deccan College, Post-Graduate and Research Institute, (5) The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute etc. and tries to procure rare books on history for needy scholars at reasonable prices.

For prices and other details of the above and other publications please vide our catalogue.

PREFACE

Not much has been written on Raja Pratapsinh of Satara. It is a small and insignificant narrative amid the broad and sweeping events of Anglo-Indian History. But it is attractive. It must draw the attention of the student of this period of Indian History. Among the several causes of the Indian Mutiny, the dethronement of the Raja of Satara, with other similar incidents, is regarded as having contributed in stirring an anti-British feeling among the people. But, apart from its political implications, it is the unfortunate incidents in the Raja's unhappy life that move our sympathy.

A couple of years ago I turned to the study of the *Satara Residency Records* at the Peshwa Daftar. Here is a mine of information on the life and administration of the Raja. The present selections contain records from the Satara papers. The introductory note written on Pratapsinh, not only draws on the records of the Residency but has incooperated select documents both from early accounts written on the Raja's life and the printed Parliamentary records which are voluminous. For those interested in the story of the Raja's prosecution and defence will have to turn to the Parliamentary Papers. We have, here in these select documents, important papers of James Grant, the first Resident, on the administrative affairs of the early Satara State.

In 1966 I had the opportunity to be in U. K. I was busy with the *Elphinstone Papers* at the India Office Library, London. I was collecting material to write a life of Mountstuart Elphinstone, the Indian Years (1795-1827). Elphinstone, we all know, was responsible for founding the independent State of Satara. Among his correspondence, both public and private, there were interesting papers on the Satara Affairs. The present selections from the Peshwa Daftar are therefore, interwoven with the *Elphinstone Papers* and lend added importance to our narrative.

Pratapsinh's interesting but unfortunate life needs a more detailed study. He can be the subject of a thesis. These selections are, therefore, a humble contribution to stir the enthusiasm of any individual who wishes to undertake such a task. In the accomplishment of this, I trust, these selections will play some part. That will be the Editor's best reward.

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I have since undertaken to make a further selection of papers from the *Satara Residency Records* covering the reign of Raja Shahji, who succeeded Raja Pratapsinh, who was exiled to Banaras. Shahji ascended the throne of Satara in 1839 and died early 1848. This work of selecting the papers is near completion. The select papers throw very clear light on the conspiracy to dethrone Pratapsinh and they implicate Colonel Lodwick, the Resident, who later deeply regretted his part in the Satara affairs. The sins of Charles Ovans, who succeeded Lodwick, [and Balaji Pant Natu are all too clearly proved, as one reads the evidence of the architects of the Raja's ruin. These papers are found among the records of Shahji's reign. Besides these papers on Raja Pratapsinh, there are those on Shahji's reign which also make interesting reading. I hope to publish this work by the end of the next year.

I am deeply grateful to the Modern Education Society for the generous financial help given towards the cost of publication of this work. I also acknowledge my indebtedness to the University of Poona for the grant-in-aid received by me from the University towards the cost of publication of my book. To the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona, for having consented to undertake this publication I am deeply grateful. Among the many friends, who have always put in a word of encouragement, Professor V. K. Nulkar, Vice Principal of the Ness Wadia College of Commerce, Dr. A. R. Kulkurni, Head of the Department of History, University of Poona and Professor G. H. Khare deserve special mention. I am very thankful to them. I also take this opportunity to thank the staff of the Peshwa Daftar, Poona, the India Office Library, London, and those of the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala for their kind co-operation, help and courtesy.

12th December 1969
Poona-2

R. D. Choksey

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RAJA PRATAPSIKH

(1818-1839)

This is the story of a Prince who died more than a hundred years ago and the British raj that is no more. At this distance of time, when all passions are allayed, the story of this unhappy Prince and his deposition from the throne of Satara make an interesting narrative. Was he the victim of a flagrant act of injustice and oppression? Is it true that the British denied him justice and fair play? Could it be that he was the victim of designing men? Did he have an overpowering love of intrigue? Such, and a number of such questions, assail our mind as the story unfolds itself. It is, indeed, difficult to be impartial. But the essence of history is truth. One cannot but feel for this unhappy Prince. His death at Banaras, in exile and sorrow, was undoubtedly caused by his mental sufferance. That he tortured himself and lived in vain hope of returning to his beloved Satara is all too clear in the closing years of his life. His incessant efforts, both in India and England, to convince the authorities of his innocence ate away his heart. His mental agony, as life draws to an end, increased his suffering. All this evokes our sympathy but must not blind our judgment. Did he deserve the tragic end? A question that must be answered with the utmost care.

For some time, after his deposition, this story of Satara continued to be food for thought here as well as in England. It evoked in England the most bitter criticism of the Raja's conduct and in some the utmost sympathy for his plight. At all stages of administration it was taken up by both the Government in India and the authorities at home. Few issues caused so much bitterness in the officialdom as this Satara affair. The affairs of the Raja for quite some time gave no peace to friend nor foe. The *Times* on 13th July, 1848 that is after the Raja was no more, wrote: "If after a thorough exposure as this case has received, any person should again arise to speak about the Raja of Sattara, he ought to do so, like the legislators of antiquity, with a rope about his neck, and the proper functionary close behind him awaiting a decision of the audience."¹ So exhausted were the

1. Calcutta Review Vol. X, 1848.

people in England with the story of Satara. The *Calcutta Review* on *Sattara—And British connections therewith* wrote in 1848: “We are well aware that Satara has become a word of significant omen both in England and in India. We are conscious of the fact that there exists no more potent talisman than this to clear the benches of “the House” and to induce even the most “constant reader” to skip whole columns of an evening edition of the *Sun* or an entire issue of the *British India Advocate*.”² This lack of interest in Indian affairs was often accompanied by colossal ignorance of Indian Geography. There is reason to believe that the Parliamentarians of the day were thoroughly ignorant of the location of Satara on the map of India. The Satara affair for some time had perhaps great nuisance value to the British public. For how were they interested in the doings of a small, insignificant principality in a corner of western India. The Raja of Satara was accused of plotting against the British raj in India. A serious accusation and thereby hangs a tale.

British and Indian alike are agreed that the creation of Satara as an independent State was no act of generosity. It was a diplomatic move. It had to serve a purpose. The purpose to part the Brahmin from the Maratha. To cripple the Peshwa by destroying his Maratha support. This could be easily done by reviving the House of Shivaji by replacing in a mushroom kingdom the Bhosales of Satara. For the Bhosales were held in tutelage by the Peshwas. The creator of Sattara wrote: “The Governor General’s intentions in founding a small State for the Raja is to afford an honorable maintenance to the representative of the ancient princes of this country and to establish among the Marattas a counterpoize to the remaining influence of the former Bramin Government” (Elphinstone). The intentions are clear.

Is it true that this step was later regretted—not by Elphinstone—but his successors? The answer is yes. In the days of the bitter quarrel with the Raja these feelings of regret, for having created a kingdom of Satara, was expressed by the highest dignitary of the Bombay Government, Sir Robert Grant, the Governor: “An opinion is now very commonly entertained that the erection of Sattara into a separte principality was a mistaken proceeding. There are those, therefore, who will hail the present crisis as

2. Ibid. pp. 437-38.

affording an excellent opportunity of repairing the error alluded to by pulling down the inconvenient pagent we have erected.”³ Does this supply the motive for the attitude adopted by the Bombay Government towards the Raja? Does this justify the Raja’s fear that his opponents in Bombay were determined to deny him a fair deal? Was the disappearance of Satara, as an independent kingdom in 1848, the logical conclusion to the story of Raja Pratapsinh? Were the British awaiting an opportunity to do what Sir Robert Grant suggested a few years earlier? It is, indeed, difficult to impute these motives, perhaps even unjust. But they do arouse our suspicion.

The central figure in this drama was the Raja. His enthronement began with a considerable amount of doubt about his ability to be a successful ruler. But Elphinstone wrote to James Grant: “His Highness at present gives proof of a good disposition and a sound understanding... I hope you will prevent his changing for the worse.” From James Grant down the years the series of Residents at Satara adopted towards the Raja very supercilious attitude accompanied by considerable arrogance, and as the narrative closes, one feels, that Lodwick and Ovans are just unbearable. Among the Elphinstone Papers in London there is a Marathi yad of a secret conversation between Lodwick and the Maharaj. During the conversation we come accross a sample of the type of rudeness to which the Maharaj was sometimes subjected. *Resident*: “Maharaj thinks he is a man of wisdom; but notwithstanding he should ask the opinion of either Appa Sahib, the Shenaputtee or Dinkerrow, otherwise the people will call him (dewanna) or mad man.” *Maharaj*: “It would not be for me to hear your disreputable attacks on me so often....” The Raja naturally felt more and more uncomfortable under this tutelage and had recourse to ways and means unbecoming a Prince. That there was a desire to intrigue there is perhaps no doubt. That the Raja may have opened shady negotiations there is a possibility. But, as Elphinstone stated, these intrigues were never of a nature or proportion to disturb British peace in India. But the question is whether the Raja was intriguing by nature or by circumstances? Perhaps he was intriguing by nature but circumstances and disappointment made him more so. James Grant’s successor John Briggs took

3. Story of Satara, B. D. Basu, p. 109.

for granted: "two great defects in the Raja's character were inordinate ambition and a passion for intrigue". But in his days there was not much evidence to support his fears, and yet he predicted that if these traits in the Raja's character were not controlled in time they would "prove the cause of his ultimate ruin".

The settlement of Satara, under its Native Prince, did in those stirring times, present a challenge. And the task was, indeed, difficult. Much credit goes to James Grant, the first Resident, at the Court of Satara. "He had to organize the Durbar of a Prince nursed with the ideas of his own importance as extravagant as those of an Emperor at Peking, and used to means and powers as narrow as those of a king of strolling players". The rebellious Jagirdars, the rustic mountain chiefs and the dissipated companions of the king all presented a complicated situation. This was typical of most of the Native Courts of the day. The situation demands "a rare union of personal weight of character and the power of appreciating and attending to the most petty details". These demands were met as a challenge and the Durbar so organised that it was reckoned "as one of the most orderly Native Courts in India". The credit does not only go to the Resident, but also to the Raja for his cooperation and understanding which went a long way in setting matters right.

So well did the Raja take to administration, in spite of his very limited experience, that for the next thirty years the State was never involved in any pecuniary difficulties. In the famine of 1824 the Prince set an example in personal economy. His management of Jata and Akhikot showed a wisdom which was deeply admired by all. He could be generous when occasion demanded. He was industrious and intelligent to a degree that astonished his critics. The Raja and his brother established Criminal and Civil Courts that dispensed even-handed justice, a department in which the Raja took great interest and received great praise from all concerned. His revenue settlement compared favourably when all others failed elsewhere. He was immensely interested in public works which changed the face of Satara. An effort that was deeply admired by Elphinstone just shortly before his departure from India. Even as late as 1835 the Court of Directors sent a message of deep appreciation of the Prince's able administration. Mr. Elphinstone wrote in 1826: "He is the most civilised Mahratta I ever met with, has his country in excellent order, and everything

to his roads and aqueducts, in a style that would do credit to a European". Similiar opinions were expressed by most of the Residents at his Court. The best testimony to the Raja's character and conduct were borne by Briggs and Robertson, before the Court of Directors, when the Raja's case came up for their hearing.

It is, indeed, sad that neither Elphinstone nor James Grant lifted their smallest finger to help the Raja in his dark days. An appeal by Dr. Milne, the friend of Raja, to Mr. Elphinstone, then in England, did not move that gentleman to even express a favourable opinion of the Raja. On the bundle of papers, sent by Dr. Milne, now in the Elphinstone Papers, bore the following remark in his own hand : "Answered September 22nd stating inability to interfere and urging against the inexpediency of intercourse with Native Princes not carried through official channels". The Raja, all through those difficult years, looked to Mr. Elphinstone for support. And was even willing to abide by his decision as final in all his matters referred to the Court of Directors.

This attitude was very unlike Elphinstone's usual behaviour. He was generous and kind to a degree; and though suspicious of the Raja's conduct, we have, in these selections, his letters to Mr. Simson, acting Resident, expressing his great doubt that the Raja could be involved in the type of intrigues of which he was suspected : "It is so contrary to the Raja's interest in every shape to involve himself in such intrigue as have been described to you, and his character agrees so ill with the adoption of so desperate a scheme that I cannot persuade myself of the accuracy of your information". Elphinstone requested the utmost caution, if at all, the Raja was to be faced with such facts. Any hasty action, he felt, would result in mutual distrust. This wisdom was later forgotten. Elphinstone wrote : "Intrigues I doubt not are carrying onbut that he should head a conspiracy to attack the English is impossible..." He, therefore, suggested : "If you find on consideration that you have perfectly sound grounds for believing in those minor intrigues you should speak in a open and friendly way, regarding them, to the Raja.. " If only this approach was adopted, if this wisdom had been followed, the history of Satara under Pratapsinh would have been different and the tragic phases of the later history would have been averted. Elphinstone left at the end

of 1827 and within a few years of his departure the Sattara episode took a grim shape.

The Raja on his accession was assured of his ascendancy over his Jagirdars by Mr. Elphinstone. It was felt by him and the Governor General, that such control would add weight to the Raja's authority. But the Raja failed to understand, say his critics, that this authority over his Jagirdars was subject to the control of the Resident. The consent of the Resident in all his acts towards the Jagirdars was the essence of the agreement. "The object of attaching these Chiefs as Feudatories of the Raja was to impart additional strength and dignity to his government : but the arrangement was now found to be attended with inconvenience and ultimately led to much discussion and embarrassment". The Raja was accused that on most trifling pretext he endeavoured to render the Jagirdars entirely subservient to his will. And he went a step further when he proposed that the "British guarantee should be set aside on the death of the present incumbent" and the jagir should pass to the Raja. Because he was not checked in time by Colonel Briggs, the Resident, said the critics of the Raja : "he become more and more tenacious of his prerogatives, and more and more impatient of control..."

Mr. George Thompson, defending the conduct of the Raja before the Court of Directors on 18th June 1845, regarded the question of the Raja and his Jagirdars as responsible for : "all the misfortunes which subsequently befell the Raja, grew out of the unhappy misunderstanding that arose upon this question."⁴ He quoted a series of letters from Elphinstone, Chaplin, Grant, Robertson and even Lodwick supporting the pretensions of the Raja "and their strict conformity with the provisions and guarantee of the treaty". Thompson quoted a despatch of the 25th September 1834 from the Court of Directors to the Bombay Government which "with certain modifications accepted the Raja's contentions". The Resident at Satara requested the Bombay Government to send the Raja those paras which pertained to him. The Government refused. This was, indeed, suspicious said Thompson. He felt that the Government wanted to withhold from the Raja "the last clause of the dispatch

4. Debate at the India House, June 18 1845 on the case of the desposed Raja of Sattara. p. 14.

which distinctly declared the Raja's right to the lapsed jagirs". It read : " In default of heirs by birth or adoption, the obligation of our guarantee ceases and the jagirs must lapse to the Raja; nor can he be considered as bound to recognise adoption in any cases but those in which we should ourselves be bound to do so."⁵ The responsibility of withholding this despatch rested with Sir Robert Grant, then newly arrived, as Governor of Bombay.

The Raja continued in the dark as Sir Grant pretended he had heard nothing from the Court of Directors so far. The Raja had claimed a jagir called Kowtallee, which had lapsed to the Company when it ought to have been the Raja. Sir Grant requested the Resident, when the Raja pleaded his cause at a personal interview, to prepare a report on behalf of the Raja. It was prepared and sent on 3rd July 1835. So far there was no bitterness between the Government of Satara and the Bombay Government nor " among the records of the Residency was there a fragment of secret correspondence against the Raja ". Sir Robert Grant promised to refer the matter to the Directors. In the meantime the Raja kept up his inquiries with the Resident. Lodwick, the Resident, was under the impression that his statement was sent to England, and though the period would be uncertain the reply would arrive in due course.

The Raja waited patiently for a full year. Sir Robert Grant visited the Hill station, where the first interview was held a year ago. The Raja waited on him and was told " that his claims had been referred generally, but they should be made a subject of a special report ". The result of this communication convinced the Raja that he was being deceived " by false hopes and promises unfulfilled ". This was May 1836. It is to this incident Lodwick referred to in his letter of the 9th October 1840 to the Directors, in which he wrote : " The instant I saw the Raja after the interview he said he perceived the reference to your Honourable Court had never been made at all; and exasperation against the Governor, and that contempt for the Government of Bombay then commenced which ultimately marked his ruin. The Rajah never afterwards appealed to them, but always from them; and spoke of them as having infringed his treaty and robbed him of his rights ". Thompson then proved that the Governor never refer-

5. Ibid. p. 21

red the Raja's plea to the authorities at Home. Later, when faced with the truth, the Governor said that "my impression and belief were that Colonel Lodwick's own letter had been referred home". If that were so were was the necessity and promise of another reference?

The Court of Directors had accepted the right of the Raja in certain circumstances to a jagir on the death of the present incumbent. But in no way did it entitle him to interfere in the internal management, nor deprive a Jagirdar of his estate without the explicit consent of the Bombay Government. The critics of the Raja have charged him of intentions to deprive his Jagirdars of their rights. But they fail to quote a single instance when the Raja tried to exercise such a right. The Raja did take charge of the jagirs of Jath and Akalkot with the consent of the Bombay Government when the internal management was about to break down under financial bankruptcy. But so well did he manage their affairs that the Resident was full of praise of the Raja's able management. Not only was the task well performed: "His Highness immediately restored the Jageerdar to as much authority as he could confer consistently with the necessity of guarding against the mismanagement likely again to arise from trusting entirely to his care and control".

There was undoubtedly mutual distrust between the Raja and the Jagirdars; the Raja did contend that on the death of the present incumbents the jagir should lapse to him; that adoption of an heir was to be with his consent; but there is no instance of a wanton attack or a demand by threat of any jagir from the Bombay Government. There is, therefore, no reason to believe that Pratapsinh wanted the British to withdraw their guarantee so that the Jagirdars be left to his mercy. On the contrary the Jagirdars constantly complained against the Raja and Pratapsinh was bitterly hurt when such complaints were entertained by the Resident. The Raja invariably asked the Bombay Government if the Treaty of 1819 did not place the Jagirdars under his direct control and what right had the British to entertain any complaints by his feudatories against him.

It is now amply clear that the bitterness commenced with these sharp differences on the Jagirdars. It is clear that the Governor had withheld the Directors decision on the Jagirdars

from the Raja. The Raja's conduct and attitude gave umbrage to the Governor and placed him at variance with the authorities in Bombay. The story of the false charges, grave and petty against the Raja, now commences. Thompson says : " Finally, bear in mind at what period it was that the plots against the Raja commenced, for I cannot myself help drawing the inference that they were concocted by some deep designing knave for the very purpose of helping the Bombay Government out of the disgraceful dilemma into which their own acts of falsehood and treachery had plunged them ".

The question of the jagirs now appears to have lost its importance. Yet a part of the jagir of the Pant Sachiv, taken by the Company, was a matter under dispute and the Raja was kept hanging on the issue by both Lord Clare and his successor Sir Grant. By 13th September 1836 the Bombay Government was writing home despatches to convict the Raja of treason. It was in October that Sir Grant refused to accept the customary dress sent by the Raja at the Dussera festival and thereby set the Raja thinking of the Governor's hostile attitude.

The reason for this resentment was due to the preparation by the Raja to present his case to the Home authorities, first with the aid of his English friend Dr. Milne and then by sending Shaik Mera as his emissary to England. The Raja confessed to the Resident this plan at a secret interview held in his Darbar. His Highness was threatened at the interview that he would lose his throne if he made any effort to approach the authorities in England. He could send no emissary nor was he free to request Dr. Milne to prepare his case. He was told that this attitude was a direct infringement of the 5th Article of the Treaty of 1819. He was bound to consult the Bombay Government and the Resident in all his difficulties :

Resident : " I am further directed to inform you that you will be deprived of your Government, as you have transgressed the 5th paragraph of your written engagement with the British Company, where it says, that the Maharaj should never apply to any other person on any secret business without the Resident, and never to speak a single word to any other person ".

Pratapsinh was surprised and said that the 5th paragraph of the Treaty did not forbid him from consulting any European

gentleman but debarred him from any negotiations with other Indian States. Mr. Elphinstone had, to the contrary, encouraged him, when in difficulty, to take any Englishman's help. And there was nothing in the 5th paragraph to forbid the Raja from contacting the authorities in England. He had every right to do so; and it was an established practice, that during the time of both Mr. Elphinstone and Sir John Malcolm, the Maharaj used to communicate his correspondence with them through any person he chose; no restriction was then imposed by the 5th paragraph. So deeply was the Raja hurt that he said: "I had better at once close this insulting course by poison and put an end to such a miserable existence than live in such unwarrantable bondage". To this the Resident replied: "Whatever correspondance the Maharaj may have to communicate either to the Bengal Government or the Home authorities, he may transmit it through the hand of the Governor...." Considering the past the Raja had no faith in the Governor and could not trust him to present his case fairly to the Home authorities.

On the 13 May 1837 the Resident reported that His Highness had discontinued "friendly and familiar intercourse with the Resident". On his leaving the Residency to Colonel Ovans and coming to Bombay, Lodwick wrote: "In concluding, I may be excused for observing, that the neglect of his claims in the first instance, the refusal of the *poshak* (the dress of honour), the painful state of suspense in which he had been kept during the last eight or nine months and other circumstances on which the present and future respectability of the Raja depends have now so powerful an effect upon his mind as to produce a state nearly approaching madness". "The whole case" said Thompson "is summed up in these brief and emphatic words".

Having prepared a charge of treason against the Raja Sir Grant comes out openly on the question of the jagirs: "pressure of business however....and perhaps my inexperience....prevented my giving to the subject that attention....demanded". He was sure that "no substantial injustice" was done to the Raja on his appeal regarding the jagirs. He then went on to refuse the claims of the Raja in eleven succeeding paragraphs rejecting Colonel Lodwick's plea on behalf of His Highness. He now forwarded Lodwick's letter with his report, twenty one months after

it had been prepared for the Court of Directors. A letter which he claimed had been sent much earlier. He tried to persuade the Directors, that in light of that treasonable conduct of the Raja, an allegation of which the Raja knew nothing, he should be deprived "of that which a solemn treaty with the British Government had guaranteed".

The Raja was accused of intentions to extend his sovereignty over the estates of his feudatories whether situated within or without the Satara boundary. The validity of the claim was strenuously supported by Colonel Lodwick. However, Lord Clare's Government decided that the sovereign rights of the Raja were circumscribed within the boundaries of the Satara State, as defined by the treaty. The argument centered round the Treaty. But the Government agreed that "the wording of the Treaty and of the schedule annexed to it was, no doubt, deficient in clearness and precision". The Raja's claim to regard the territory of the Pant Sachiv, north of the Nira river, within the bounds of the Satara State was the bone of contention. The Government argued that though the Treaty was not explicit Elphinstone's intentions were beyond a shadow of doubt. Why Elphinstone was not called in to explain his intentions is indeed surprising. They speak for Elphinstone that he could never have consented to the extension of the Raja's authority into isolated portions of British Territory. And in the schedule, stating the boundaries of the Satara State, are included those of Akalkot and the Pant Sachiv without mentioning the limits that lay outside the Satara jurisdiction. Yet they said "that such was the meaning seems clearly deducible".

The pride of the Raja, said his critics, was deeply mortified by the rejection of his claims. "Disappointed in his expectations, however, he appears to have become more and more impatient of control and gradually estranged himself from the Resident, Colonel Lodwick". He, therefore, according to them, passed into the hands of the most unprincipled men. "To their evil and corrupt counsels are to be ascribed many of the acts which so soon involved him in ruin. The period of his fall was now rapidly approaching". He was further accused of "an almost hostile disposition" to the Resident, and "acted as he pleased as if he were independent of the treaty and of all control".

The Raja's right to contact the Home authorities was now acknowledged, ten months later: "I am not prepared to state", wrote Sir Grant, "that His Highness is not at liberty to make an immediate appeal to the authorities in England". The Resident, therefore, requested to know from the Government of Bombay as to how he was now to act "in consequence of the late breach of confidence on the part of His Highness" who without the knowledge of the Resident was making preparations to appeal to the authorities at home. There was no acknowledgement or answer to this query.

Sir Robert Grant found himself in a difficult situation. Thompson, and the Raja's friends, state that the charges of treason and conspiracy were now had recourse to by Sir Grant and his friends to save themselves from exposure before the authorities at home. "I received" wrote Sir Grant, "private intimation of His Highness's attempt on the fidelity of the Native Officers of the 23rd Regiment". Thompson proves beyond doubt that on the day Sir Grant wrote this letter he had no intimation from any source of such a charge against the Raja. The letters implicating the Raja were written much later. Hence, says Thompson: "From whom did this important information come? That we are not told".⁶

In the minute that pointed out the complicity of the Raja in a conspiracy Sir Grant betrays his fear of being exposed on the question of the jagirdars. He writes: "when what has transpired at Sattara has been communicated...his embassy, should it reach England, will be rejected". This is enough to show that Sir Grant was extremely anxious to implicate the Raja in charges of a very grave nature which would throw into shade the question of the Jagirdars. Says Thompson: "In the work of the Raja's ruin, we shall find haste even to precipitancy, industry the most amazing, application the most intense, ingenuity the most fertile, and perseverance the most unwearied".

When the unhappy Prince was dethroned his successor was not only deprived of all present and prospective title or claim to

6. "Hence Sir Grant's accusation of the Raja's complicity in the attempts upon the fidelity of Native Officers was totally false. False if you take for your guide the letters of General Lodwick. False, if you consult the declaration of the Commissioners and false even with reference to the date of the first interview between the Brahmin and the Soobadars on the 11th July". Debate at the India House, 18th June 1845.

any territory situated beyond the boundaries of Sattara State but also of the sovereignty over six great jagirs which were transferred to the British Government. This behaviour was evidence enough of how anxious the Bombay Government was to settle this question in its favour.

The friends of the Raja feel that from 1836 onwards till 1839 there was a conspiracy to effect the Raja's ruin prosecuted with almost superhuman ingenuity until it ended in the utter destruction of their victim. To his critics it was the logical conclusion to the rebellious and treasonable conduct the Raja had been pursuing for some time. Revd. W. Mitchell wrote in the *Calcutta Review* 1848: "Doubtless there have been many, who, impressed with the popular qualities of the Raja and the monstrous wildness of the intrigues imputed to him have either questioned the reality of his guilt, or arraigned the severity of the punishment with which it was visited. But a far greater number have been misled by the daring and flagrant mis-statement with which the subject has been so elaborately distorted and obscured..." The Revd. Mitchell also felt that all the agitation in England and India could be "chiefly ascribed to the persevering and unscrupulous advocacy of a well-paid and well-organised agitation." His stand, moreover, appears on the bold acceptance of the accusation without leading any evidence and with no regard for truth. For when the guilt of the Raja is questioned by his friends overwhelming evidence pours in to show that the powers of evil were determined to destroy the unfortunate Prince. Of this, on closer study of the evidence, there is hardly any doubt. Not only Indians but true thinking Englishmen, of whom there has never been a dearth, Englishmen who were closely associated with the Raja, have testified to his innocence and of whom it never can be said they were unscrupulous advocates paid to organise agitation. Of Thompson it was said that he was in the pay of the Raja, but what can be said of men like Briggs and Robertson and even Lodwick who testified to the good character of the Raja, refused with contempt to believe the charges levelled against the Prince. What were these charges?

Nine years, says General Briggs, after he left Satara the Court of Directors agreed to present the Raja a jewelled sword for the "distingutshed merit of His Highness's administration." This gift was withheld by the Chief Secretary at Bombay,

“because the Rajah had already committed himself to a decided opinion regarding the interpretation of those articles in the Treaty relating to his feudatory chieftains and his jurisdiction over their estates...the Home Government acknowledged the correctness of the Raja's views regarding his feudatories, but the Raja's rights freely admitted by the Home authorities were obstinately resisted by the Bombay Government; all his appeals were unheard...” And this from a man who had parted from the Raja with a certain amount of suspicion and disgust. Yet, a little later: “I have constantly appeared in my place in the India House...and have, by my voice, as well as by my votes, done all in my power to obtain justice for the virtuous but injured Prince.” On the charges against the Raja: “Let the Government hasten to vindicate its own character by retracing its steps. Let it give the Raja the benefit of its disclosure of all these horrid falsehoods and forgeries...”

The Raja and his Dewan were accused of conspiring to corrupt two Native soldiers of the 23rd Regiment, then quartered in Satara. Briggs said “that referring to the alledged interview with two Native Officers...it is so absurd that a child of five years old would refuse to credit it, if informed of all circumstances of the case.” For the matter as related by the prosecutors the Raja sent for two soldiers in the Company's service who he had never met before and without any security for their secrecy, even without any knowledge of their character, with no definite plan of action, told them that he was in league with the other Native States to, to overthrow the Company's rule. This was really the sum and substance of the charge. Asks Briggs: “Is it likely that any man with a grain of common sense would do this?” And when the Supreme Government was informed of this charge they instructed the British Political Agents, all over the country, to report to what extent the alleged conspiracy was carried on. And these Agents, one and all, declared that they could discover no trace of such a plot. The Raja himself when told of this charge, and his Dewan thrown in prison, did his best to reason with the Resident on the absurdity of such an accusation, but to no avail. The Maharaj in his interview with the Resident said; “It appears, indeed, that there is no use in any communications I have made, things remain without any kind of redress being afforded me; whether I address myself to you or the Bombay Government, you

hear and seem to understand only one side nor do you listen to any evidence which would show you distinctly the unwarrantable nature of your proceedings towards my authority and Government." Well might Briggs say: "I ask you whether upon the face of it this charge is not the most absurd and ridiculous one ever preferred against an innocent man?"

We need not here enter into the overwhelming evidence led by Mr. Thompson to criminate Sir Robert Grant and the Resident Charles Ovens as the villains of the piece. He challenged Ovens to accuse him of libel or stand a trial. Ovens refused to do either on the ground that as a public servant he could not accept that challenge. Besides, he had satisfied the Directors about his conduct and was exonerated by them of all responsibilities for what had happened. Ludwick in a private letter assured Sir Grant of the Raja's innocence. Yet the Governor was determined to obtain through the soldiers incriminating evidence to involve the Raja. And all this said Thompson, on the statement of two soldiers who had already admitted that they had prejudiced themselves. The unhappy Govindrao, the Raja's Dewan, thrown in prison, was being subjected to torture in solitary confinement in Ahmednagar. Ovens even tried with the aged mother of the Dewan, under false promises to the lady, that her son would be released if he gave the names of the parties implicated in the conspiracy. The lady trusted a brahmin, Krishnaji Bhide, to draft a petition to the Resident. But Krishnaji fell into the hands of Ballaji Pant Natu, who bribed Krishnaji to betray the lady's notes and through him forged in the lady's name a false petition, implicating innocent people. Ovens was in possession of this evidence which he knew to be false and for the procuring of which he had utilised meanest of British spies—Natu, who, to pander to his British masters, including Elphinstone, had often in the past stooped to the meanest of actions.

Natu, an avowed enemy of the Raja, had time and on borne false evidence. General Robertson testified: "with regard to the evidence of Ballajee Punt Nathoo, we find...that not one word of it was true." Speaking at the India House in 1840, he said: "I patiently listened to reports; I received them as communications of importance, and with commendations of the valuable services of my informants: but time and many casual circumstances enabled

me to appreciate those reports at their due worth and to feel convinced that they were generally little better than malicious fabrications and that any truth they contained was sadly alloyed with falsehood". This Natu was made a sirdar and was regarded as a valued friend even by such men as Elphinstone and Grant. It was proved beyond doubt that Natu promised Krishnaji monetary reward and service with the British Government. Ovans was quite aware of Natu's machinations. And it was only when Krishnaji did not receive the exact sum of money promised by Natu that he told Ovans that he was the author of the petition and not the Dewan's mother. Ovans refused to interfere in the vile doings of his creature and held on to the petition withholding the truth from the Bombay Government. He was fully aware that the petition he held was false. Says Thompson: "Lient. Col. Ovans kept back evidence of the most important kind; and that had lead to the imprisonment and ruin of innocent persons and crimination of the Rajah of Sattara, upon testimony which Col. Ovans knew to be false".

As the case of corrupting the Native soldiers unfolds itself we are gradually convinced that it was concocted at Bombay for the purpose of preventing the Raja from exposing with success the official delinquencies of those authorities. We accept the charge of the Raja's love of intrigue, a failing he shared with most of the Native Princes. But the charge of heading an all India conspiracy to any reasoning individual, from the evidence lead, must fall through. A commission consisting of three individuals Lodwick, the Resident, Mr J. P. Willoughby, Secretary to the Bombay Government, and Colonel Ovans constituted a committee of investigation. The accusers were the judges. The first two deeply prejudiced and the last a friend and confidante of the Governor who was interested in criminating the Raja. A most damning accusation was prepared against the Raja. He was refused scrutiny of the evidence on the ground that it was a State secret. To what height of absurdity could the enemies of the Raja rise can be seen from the accusation that he was, besides conspiring with Indian Princes, in touch with the Turks and Russians. This was anxiety *par excellence* to prove the Raja's guilt.

But this conspiracy was not the only arrow to hit the Raja with. If the Turks and Russians were a little far away the Portu-

guese were very near. He was accused of a conspiracy with the Governor of Goa. He was accused of carrying on, over the years, a correspondence with Don Manuel the Governor, to obtain 30,000 troops to drive the English out of India. This great discovery was by Charles Ovans, the Resident, for Lodwick had first mentioned of some such activity on the part of the Raja some years ago, though there was nothing on official record. The evidence lay in a pack of papers bought by Ovans for Rs. 400 and two sets of seals produced in evidence against the Raja to prove his treasonable conduct. These very incriminatory seals were not found in the possession of the Raja. But they had been with one Swami Sankeshwar. On close examination it was proved that they were not the Raja's seals and at that nor of any other Raja. The seals bore this inscription: "Sadasew Bajee Row, the prime minister of Raja Shahoo, king of men". So great was the haste that having read the word Raja it was immediately pronounced those of the living Prince, though his name was Pratapsinh and not Shahu. There never was any prime minister of either Shahu or of any Satara Raja of that name. It was, therefore, a clear forgery.

The Swami in whose possession these seals were found had reason to be displeased with the Raja. The Swami was known to collect contributions and the Raja had made it known that people were at liberty to give or withhold. This gave the Swami much annoyance. It occurred in 1817; and from that time this fancied insult rankled in the heart of the Swami. A further cause of the Swami's displeasure was that when he, a bramin, objected to certain inferior caste insisting on the performance of certain funeral rites, the Raja instead of upholding his objection, advised both the parties to appeal to the Pandits at Banaras to decide the issue. This roused the brahmins against the Raja. Thousands of them collected near Satara and vowed vengeance against the Raja for not upholding their priestly rights. It is because of this the Raja often told the Resident he feared brahmin animosity. And said that quite a few of his troubles were due to their machinations. Natu was a brahmin and at one time tried to be the Raja's prime minister. But Pratapsinh would have nothing to do with him. He, therefore, had incurred Nahu's displeasure and quite a few of his woes could be laid at Nahu's door.

क. न. म. व. ना. पोतदाप,

Turning again to the Goa conspiracy it was said that the Raja had employed one Nagu Deorao, who was the agent of the Swami for collecting benevolences, to approach the Governor of Goa. The fact that the Raja was aware of the Swami's enmity and yet employed his agent in such a dangerous mission is in itself, to say the least, absurd.

When Sir Grant was determined to criminate the Raja in some conspiracy he found that Colonel Lodwick was not a willing tool. In 1840 Lodwick confessed to the Court of Directors: "Honour and honesty being my motto in public as in private life, I spurned such shifts as these, and left the plot to develop itself, determining to take no active part in the Raja's ruin..." Grant accused Lodwick of having lost the favour and confidence of the Raja. He wrote to the Government on 30th March 1837: "The health of Colonel Lodwick ill fits him to conduct the difficult and deliberate investigation required and I rather believe that he is about to leave Satara for a time". He was, therefore, removed and Ovens sent. From the moment of the new Resident's arrival the plot thickened. He immediately set about to collect evidence against the Raja. In the meantime, Deorao died in the Konkan but not till he had revealed a plot criminating the Raja to his brother-in-law, Baloba Kelkar. Baloba, member of a gang of thieves, set out to rob the British treasury at Vingurla was nearly caught but escaped. It was he, who, while in hiding, sent word of a packet of important papers in his possession to Ovens. These were the papers, under the forged seals, which Baloba sold to Ovens for Rs. 400 and also procured his pardon. In these bundle of papers, purported to be original, were letters from the Raja of Satara to Don Manuel the Portuguese Governor of Goa. Don Manuel, when approached, strongly denied the existence of such a plot. Among the papers, found later in the possession of the deceased Swami, was the exact replica of a treaty between the Raja and Don Manuel which was also among the papers sold to Ovens. The plot to criminate the Raja can be clearly seen. Nagu Deorao and the Swami were the originators of this conspiracy. These were the papers regarded by some as the incontestible proof of the Raja's guilt.

Baloba was not the only criminal who escaped punishment. There were a few others who all received a pardon and came to

Satara. Under close examination seven of the letters purported to be written by the Raja were from the pen of one Moro Joshi, one of the robbers, as well as three more in the name of Don Manuel. And these were the documentary evidence placed before the House of Commons. Practically every robber had some letters to his credit. "These letters" writes Briggs, "are established on the testimony of the very persons who produced these papers as evidence of the Raja's guilt".

General Briggs drew from that bundle of papers a document which was regarded as highly criminating the Raja. This document was a letter written by Nagu Deorao, shortly before he died, requesting certain favours. The opposition said it was written to the Raja soliciting certain favours and commending his followers to the care of His Highness. Briggs, a brilliant orientalist, was willing to stake his reputation on the opinion he was about to deliver. He was sure that the letter was not addressed to the Raja but to the Swami. His arguments crushed the Raja's opponents. "Sir, all Hindoos, in writing to each other, place a certain word at the top of the paper on which they commence to write. This they do no matter what the caste or rank of the party addressed. The custom is invariable and universal. The word so employed is "Shree". It is an invocation of the Divine Being.. But there is another form of invocation used only by a brahmin when writing to a holy man—one which would be considered prostituted, and used sacrilegiously, if employed on any other occasion, and that consists of the words "Shree Sidhraj" which, being translated, means "A holy and mighty saint".... The meanest member of this brahminical confedracy would have endured death rather than address these words to the Raja. This letter, therefore, could never be intended for the Raja but was obviously, from the very words placed at the commencement of it, intended for the Swami Sunkeshwur who was always addressed as Sidhraj". We will be justified if we drop the accusation of a conspiracy by the Raja with the authorities at Goa.

Robertson like Briggs believed that it was a brahmin conspiracy that sought the Raja's ruin. To him there was little doubt "that Untajee, the Brahmin agent in the charge against His Highness of seducing the troops, was the tool of some more important personages of his own *caste* and when more of the secret history

of this case is known I feel assured that this will prove the case". The kingdom of Satara was established as a counterpoise against the brahmin influence by British diplomacy. But when it suited their purpose, the few disgruntled brahmin conspirators, became an excellent smoke screen for British officials to hide behind.

The secret of the seals was also soon out. The question was asked at Satara to the gang of robbers: "How came you in possession of these seals?" The reply was, "Oh, we made them." "Made them! how came you to think of making seals for the Raja of Sattara?" "Why, Nagu Deorao had authority from the Maharaj (Swami) to make seals and so we had them manufactured in the village of Pedney in the southern Concan". Here, then was the history of these official documents.

The Raja was also accused of being in contact with the Ex Raja of Nagpur and corresponding with him through an emissary for obtaining from the Raja two million and a half sterling in money to assist in his scheme against the English. The Ex Raja was "at the time in exile and beggary". It is best to leave this charge at that.

As if these false accusations were not enough the Raja's character was assailed. He was blamed for seducing his brother's wife. Briggs rose to defend the Raja: "I never met with any one whose moral character stood higher or in whose conduct the utter absence of all licentiousness was more remarkable than in that of the deposed Rajah of Sattara (cheers)". The present Raja Appa Sahib said Briggs, "is one of the most licentious of Native Princes of India.... This is on record". He had, said Briggs, a beautiful wife. But due to Appa Sahib's bad conduct she was compelled to forsake her home and take shelter with her husband's brother. "The deportment of the Raja towards that lady was perfectly pure. He treated her in all respects as his sister...." This was a crushing testimony against which nothing was said or could be said. This was the evidence of a man who had stayed with the Raja and saw his household affairs at close quarters. Appa Sahib's wife, claimed Briggs, visited his wife and children.

What is, indeed, surprising is that all evidence against the Raja had been withheld from him and that he was deposed without a trial. It was deeply affecting that the Raja only obtained

some evidence six years after the sentence was pronounced and carried into execution; and then getting such evidence in a foreign language which debarred of proving its falsehood. Was this consistent with the principles of justice? He was never confronted with his accusers and even denied the knowledge of the charges brought against him! He continued to suffer, year after year, in exile and captivity ignorant of his alleged offences. His agony gave vent to the constant plea he made for an opportunity to prove his innocence. He raised a continued cry in the agony of his soul. His pathetic appeals on record show a sensitive and proud heart. He had refused his crown because he was determined never to accept the guilt that was the condition on which alone he was to continue on the throne. The Raja meeting Sir James Carnac, the Governor, at an interview said: "If you suspect me of having [said, or done, or meditated ought that is wrong, I am willing to remain in this house, and give up the charge of my kingdom, until my innocence is established". He is known to have further said: "To prove my friendship for the British Government I am willing to die upon the spot on which we have met. If a paper of mine, connected with any plot against your Government can be produced, I will not utter a word in my defence". His determination to suffer and vindicate his character makes him a hero. His spirited defence by others, Indian and English, is a testimony to his popularity. Pratapsinh—the descendant of Shivaji—fell a martyr to truth. The years in Banaras were one long agony in which his mind never wearied but it told on his physic. Perhaps never a day passed when some hope did not knock at his heart. The knowledge of the faithful Rungo Bapooji's continued fight for him in England, was an eternal solace to his drooping spirit. But alas! all struggle was in vain. The mind eventually wearied of the struggles assailed the body. The story of Rangu Bapooji's struggles in England in the Raja's cause is another saga of woe and trouble. Seldom has a Prince so faithful a servant. "I shall remain", wrote Rangu Bapooji, "while my life is spared to urge his claims, in the full belief that the redress which may be long withheld by those in power will at last be won by the British people". Such a day was never to dawn. When Rangu Bapooji penned those lines he did not know that his master had quitted this earth with all its troubles and woes, away from the reach of his persecutors.

The documents at the end of these selections tell the pathetic story of the Raja's removal from Satara. The road to Banaras was long and weary. Who can imagine his agony? He was rudely awakened in the early hours of the morning, and with hardly any clothes on him put in a palanquin and taken away. Pratapsinh broke his journey at Neemb, a village seven miles from Satara, and by stages, reached Banaras on the 25 March 1840. It had taken four months to reach his destination. A brute of a British officer in charge of the Raja brought about the death of the Raja's cousin, the Senapati, on their way to Banaras. Lieut. Cristall pressed the Senapati to continue his march even when he was seriously ill. As if this brutality was not enough, when the widow of the late Senapati was seized with the pangs of labour, he refused to halt. She gave birth by the road side.

Extravagant, like all Indian Princes, who were accustomed to live on their subjects, Pratapsinh objected to the sum of Rs. 10,000 given monthly for his maintenance. This was to be paid out of the revenues of the Satara State. Besides, there was a bitter controversy over the Raja's personal property which was about Rs. 30,00,000. His brother claimed a substantial portion of this estate. He was stoutly supported in his claim by Ovens. It was, indeed, difficult to decide what was personal and what portion of this estate was public. The Raja had far too many followers and he was requested to cut down this responsibility. The severity of his exile was lessened by the very gallant and humane officer Major Carpenter to whose care the Raja was entrusted.

How the Raja clung to hope can be seen in the last para of his last letter to the Governor General.

“ I trust that, when my case in England is favourably decided, Your Lordship will make every arrangement for my adopted son according to ancient established usage, and I confidently rely upon this being done by Your Lordship”.

In a letter dated, 15th October 1847 Major Carpenter informed the Government of India “ that the Ex Raja of Sattara expired yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock”. His suffering was at an end. In the words of Oscar Wilde: “ Men have gone to heaven for smaller things than that”.

No. 1 Why the State of Satara was founded. To take complete control of the State of Satara. The Raja's character. What is to be the Resident's attitude towards the Raja and his family. The limits of the Raja's territories. The Raja's relations with the Jagirdars. The responsibility of maintaining peace was with the Resident. Instructions for carrying out the administration. (From M. Elphinstone to James Grant)

18th April 1818

Sir,

Having appointed you to act as Political Agent with the Raja of Satara until His Excellence the Governor General's pleasure be known, I proceed to communicate to you the object for which the new government is to be founded and the manner in which it appears to me most likely that those objects will be attained.

The Governor General's intention in founding a small State for the Raja is to afford an honorable maintenance to the representative of the ancient princes of this country and to establish among the Marattas a counterpoize to the remaining influence of the former Bramin Government. In the extent which I intend to propose for the Raja's territories I have taken in the further object of providing for a portion of the soldiery of the country, whose habits might be unsuitable to our service, and likewise of maintaining some of the civil and religious orders whom it might be difficult to dispose of under our own direct Government.

To the effectual attainment of these objects it is necessary to obtain the Raja's good will, and at the same time, both the Governor General's commands and our own security require the firm establishment of the supremacy of the British Government. Unless the points are secured the machine we are setting up will be liable to be turned against us and the release of the Raja of Satara may prolong the disturbances occasioned by the Paishwa's treachery.

The present state of the Raja's affairs appears as well calculated, as any that can be imagined, for establishing our influence and control. He has just been released from prison and is about to be placed at the head of a government, which is obtained by no effort of his own, but is the spontaneous result of the bounty of the British Government. The advantages we may expect from his gratitude are rendered more certain by the continuance of his

dependence. He is at present destitute both of power and territory and depends on us, not only for his future establishment, but for his present subsistence. To these advantages are opposed the total inexperience of the Raja and the people about him, their extravagant ideas of their own pretensions, and the facility which these defects would afford to the intrigues of any designing persons who must have an interest in disturbing the new order of things.

I rely on your exertions and address for overcoming these difficulties. The best means appear to be to take complete charge of the Raja's affairs for the present, which is a natural arrangement, while everything is to be done with our troops and our money, and gradually to allow him to manage his own territory as he becomes better acquainted with affairs, as the country becomes more settled, and as his own means become adequate to the purposes of government.

On this principle I have already requested him to communicate to you not only every important step he takes but every particular of his proceedings. I have likewise explained to him the necessity that exists for you taking the management of all affairs, as long as the present disturbances last, and have apprized him that the final settlement for his government will in a great measure be regulated by the disposition he evinces during the period of probation.

His Highness at present gives proof of a good disposition and a sound understanding, and by encouraging the most respectable persons in whom he has confidence, I hope you will be able to prevent his changing for the worse. Your first endeavour must be to gain his confidence by convincing him of the interest you take in his welfare, and by constant marks of respect and attention. This spirit of conciliation ought to extend to all members of the Raja's family but it ought to be impressed on him, and on all, that he is the head of the Government. The desire shown by His Highness's mother to take a share in the conduct of public business ought to be discouraged, but all interference on our part in the Raja's domestic affairs ought carefully to be avoided. Any complaint or overture on such subjects should be checked by referring the applicant to the Raja as head of his own family. Much odium will be avoided by keeping clear of these intrigues and disputes if any should arise.

The personal expenses of the Raja and his family, ought for the present, to be about three lacks of rupees per annum. The employment of this money ought to be left to His Highness with no other check than may be necessary to prevent his exceeding the amount allowed him.

The rest of the business connected with his Government will, for the present, be conducted by you. You will, however, explain your proceedings to the Raja, conform to his wishes in cases where there is no objection and endeavour to give him a taste for business and a knowledge of the principles of government.

The limits which I intend to propose to the consideration of His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General for the Raja's territory are the river Neera on the north, the Kistna and Warna on the south, the Paishwa's frontiers on the east and the ghauts on the west. The ghauts themselves, and the forts which command them, will probably be improved and defined by arrangements with the Government of His Highness the Nizam. I have guarded against disappointment on this last head by acquainting the Raja that his country will only extend up to Punderpoor. I have, likewise, apprized the Raja that all Jageer lands will be excepted from the proposed grant. The extent to which this last declaration is acted on will, however, depend on circumstances. If the Raja's conduct, or our own policy should make His Excellency the Governor General desirous of circumscribing his authority, the whole jageer of the Prittee Niddee, resumed by Bajee Row, may be restored to him to be held by the British Government, and the jageers now held by Gokla, Rastia, Jaun Row Naik Nimbalkur and others, within limits in question, may either be left as jageers or resumed by the British Government without the Raja being entitled to claim any part of them. This would leave the Raja no more than six or seven lacks of revenue. If, as is more probable, it should be the wish of the Most Noble the Governor General to increase the Raja's consequence, he can be allowed to hold all between the most extended of limits above noticed that already belongs directly to the Government or may, hereafter, be resumed and the jageerdars who are allowed to remain may hold their lands of him, with the exception of the Putwurdhans, whom it might be inconvenient to connect with the Raja, as the greater part of their lands lie on the southern banks of the Kistna, and whose incli-

nation, we are, moreover, bound to consult before we place them under any government but our own.

You will be guided by these distinctions in your treatment of the country with which you are charged. The whole must be taken possession of in the name of the British Government, and all within the most extended limits marked out by the Raja, will ultimately be administered by you in the Company's name. But the parts which have been mentioned as certainly to be given to the Raja will be held in trust for him, and those which are doubtful as a possession of the British Government. The Raja's flag may be hoisted in the villages and even in the forts of the former Divisions and he ought to have credit for the collections. It may also be explained to the inhabitants that they are the Raja's subjects although the Government must necessarily be administered by our officers until a period of tranquility. It will be proper to impress on them, as well as on the Raja, that it is not intended to revive, even in name, the Empire of Sewajee but to create for the Raja a new State the limits of which will, hereafter, be fixed by His Excellency the Governor General. You will no doubt be careful to do this in the manner least offensive to the Raja's feelings and least injurious to his dignity; but it is of the utmost consequence that the design should be clearly understood. In the country to be immediately considered as belonging to the Raja are included those parts of the district of Waee, and Sattara, and of the country immediately to the south of Sattara, which are neither now held in jageer nor have been so since Baji Row's accession.

I beg you to arrange with Major Thatcher for hoisting the Raja's flag in the forts within those districts that have not belonged to the Prithee Nidhee or any other jageerdar, and that are not situated in the line of the ghauts which will probably remain in our possession. The whole of the country now mentioned as the Raja's, as well as that to be held in our own name, must be administered by our officers of your selection and the places occupied by the sebundies of your entertaining or by regular sepoys. From this must, however, be excepted all places that may now or hereafter be occupied by Brigadier General Munro. Those places are to remain under his management till such time as he may think it desirable to hand them over to you.

You will proceed to take possession of as much of the country as you may find within your reach and you will resume the jageers of all persons who may be serving with the Paishwa, and the jenams of the most conspicuous. The lands actually in the possession of the Prittee Niddhee's widow may, however, be left with her as her husband appears rather to be a prisoner than an adherent of Baji Row's; and if there be any other person of whose case you have doubts you will exercise your own discretion or refer the question to me. With the present limited means at your disposal you will be able to do little by force in reducing the country, but General Munro will soon be disengaged from the seige of Nepauny, when he will move towards Sholapoor and you may derive great advantage from his presence and even from the expectations of his army. In the meantime you can circulate the proclamation and endeavour to persuade the people of the advantage of submitting.

It will be an important part of your duty to afford protection to those who have submitted or may, hereafter, submit to our Government. You are already apprized of the troops left with Major Thatcher and of the instructions he has received. You will be pleased to consult Major Thatcher on all military operations that may require to be undertaken.

You will be pleased to entertain such a number of sebundies as you may think necessary. In doing this it will be a great object to afford employment to the soldiery of the country. But the importance of securing the Raja's safety renders it necessary that none should be employed near Sattara, but such as can be relied on. I beg you to give me your opinion on the expediency of raising horse about Sattara for general service, the object being to give employment to the military classes, and not to obtain the services of persons who could find a provision in other pursuits.

If any great body of enemy should approach it will be necessary to recall all exposed parties, and look to the defence of Sattara alone, on the means of which, and of affording a retreat to our irregulars and adherents, you are already concerting with Major Thatcher. While no such force is near every exertion must be used to keep down insurgents, and to disperse any small parties of the enemy who may plunder the country. The principal enemy at present is the insurgent, who has assumed the name of

Chuttur Sing⁷, and who now occupies Purchietghur and pushes his depredations almost up to Sattara itself. This person appears to be at the head of a gang of Ramoosses, and as he professes respect for the British Government, I have already requested you to endeavour to come to some settlement with him. This may be easily effected if his object should be the recovery of the rights usurped by Baji Row: even in other circumstances it may perhaps be brought about by employing the Ramoossees on the settlement of the country or even by [some moderate personal allowance to the leader, provided full satisfaction can be obtained for the future good conduct of his adherents, but no anxiety [need be shown to effect any less solid adjustment, as such a course would only invite other rebellion. To provide against the continuance of the insurrections I have applied to the Raja of Kolapur, through General Munro, to send a body of horse and irregular infantry to assist in checking the insurgents. These troops will be placed at your disposal and I shall recommend General Munro to refer the part of the Putwardhan's troops, employed on this service to you also, but nothing to be done with those irregulars by direct orders, and it will require a good deal of management and address to turn them to account.

The government of the country committed to your charge is to be conducted on the same principles as those prescribed for that of our new conquest, with which you are already acquainted. The great objects are to deprive the enemy of his resources in men and money and to conciliate the people. The first will be accomplished by seizing the country, encouraging and enjoining the people to withhold the revenue from the Paishwa and likewise of seizing on the jageers of his adherents and the enams of the most conspicuous. In the case of the enams, however, care is to be taken to explain, that in the event of an early submission of the owners, the British Government is fully disposed to give an indulgent consideration for the customs and prejudices of the people. No innovations ought to be attempted unless to remedy great abuses or to meet the wishes of the people. Capital punishments of the bramins must be avoided, and everything likely to render the Raja's Government odious to those of his own religion, care-

⁷ A large number of letters deal with the activities of Chuttursing and his pretensions to the throne of Sattara. He is eventually captured and fully exposed as a pretender by James Grant.

fully abstained from. Cattle on no account to be killed at Sattara. All land allotted to charitable and religious purposes must be continued and the titles ought not for the present to be strictly examined. The same applies to enams, where present possession ought to be sufficient presumption in favour of the holders title, until there shall be time for more regular investigation. Large remission of revenue must be made both on account of devastation occasioned by the frequent passage of the armies and to conciliate the people. Justice is to be administered according to the forms established in the country, with such modifications as you think necessary to the attainment of the end in view. Where they are not clearly repugnant to reason and justice the laws and customs of the country must be implicitly conformed to. The revenue officers must assist you in dispensing justice, both civil and criminal, when the case is not of sufficient importance for your own investigation, they can be aided by the patails and zemindars and by punchayets such as are already in use. Capital cases are to be referred to me, except in cases where there is an absolute necessity for a prompt example, among which I reckon all in which persons are caught in the act of plundering the country. I desire that all persons so siezed may be executed immediately, with the exception of our soldiers and followers, who are to be left to the military authorities. Major Thatcher will receive separate instructions on this head. I look on the danger to this country from plunderers to be one of the most serious nature, and I am persuaded that nothing but the most vigorous measures will prevent the whole becoming unsettled. In cases where criminals belong to the Raja's family or household the punishment ought to be left to him, as also the adjustment of civil causes were his own servants are parties. You will of course procure his adoption of such measures regarding these persons as may secure protection of the rest of the community.

In revenue arrangements you will keep up the Maratta system where it is not oppressive, but you will on no account resort to farming of revenue, but make your collections from the patails through agents in the pay of government. The revenue is to be levied according to the actual state of the cultivation and not with reference to the sum produced by village in ancient and more flourishing times. You must lay on no new imposts but you may abolish those that seem unpopular. Of this nature are many of

the payments in kind originating in the corruption of the Maratta revenue officers and now brought to the credit of the government. The Maratta practice of punishing all offences by fines may require to be kept in the prescribed plan of avoiding hasty innovations. But your closest attention will be directed to preventing their being made a source of profit either to the officers of government or to informers.

I have already alluded to the conciliation of the Ramoossees now in rebellion but I wish you to settle with the body so as to prevent them disturbing the country. Before I can give you any instruction on this head, I must wait for such information, as you may be able to furnish, respecting their numbers and situation their present conduct and pretensions.

In mentioning the Raja's affairs I have not alluded to his intercourse with other princes or with other subjects of foreign State, excepting the intercourse of civility, which I believe, has always been permitted with his relation the Raja of Colapoor. It would be desirable he should forbear from communications with persons not his own subjects, until his situation be better defined, and at all times, he must be impressed with the idea that he is to have no intercourse whatever with foreign States, but through the medium of the Resident.

To assist you in your intercourse with the natives I have at your desire left Ballajee Punt Nattoo as your principal Native Agent. He has for some time acted in that capacity for me, I have found him zealous and intelligent and I have no doubt he will be useful to you. I authorize you to allow him 500 rupees a month, independent of his pension, and I intend to propose his receiving a liberal grant of land in the Company's possessions, as a reward for his services and fidelity. I think I am entitled to expect that he will be free from corruption.

I intend to submit to the Right Honorable the Governor General that your salary should be 2000 rupees a month during the present provisional government, and I authorize you to draw that sum, and to charge 1500 rupees for your expenses which will be sufficient, considering the state of the Raja's Government in which a liberal expenditure on your part is rather required to support the dignity of the new court, than to keep pace with its increasing establishment.

Your office establishment will be charged separately and I rely on your exercising strict economy in all your branches of expenditure.

You will be pleased to draw on the paymaster on Poona for such funds as you may require, unless you can of yourself negotiate bills on Bengal at 3 per cent premium on the Chinechoor rupees.

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No. 2. Capture of the Fort of Wasotta. (From James Grant to M. Elphinstone)

20th April 1818

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you the fort of Wasotta has been delivered up...

There were two prisoners found in the fort — Wittal Punt Koomria and Vincoba Kulumdana, carcoons employed six years ago as the bearers of a message from the Raja of Sattara to the Prithee Nidhee, the latter having first invited the 'intriguers but afterwards informed against the carcoons and they were seized and thrown into Vasotta.

I have released them at the Raja's request.

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No. 3. Installation of the Raja of Satara. (From James Grant to Major Thatcher.)

3rd May 1818

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you that in consequence of instructions from the Honorable M. Elphinstone, Commissioner, I have consulted His Highness the Raja's wishes, as to the day on which he is desirous of having his flag hoisted on the eight forts. .

His Highness has accordingly fixed on Sunday 10th instant at 12 O'clock in the forenoon. I request you will have the goodness to intimate this to the Officer Commanding those forts and cause a royal salute to be fired from Satara on the occasion.

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No. 4. Satara reduced to obedience. Efforts to perfect administration. Establishment of Justice and Police. Revenue and other resources of the country. Revenue Officers their powers and functions. Customs and how collected. The Native Office and its Officers. Success of the administration depended on the zeal and honesty of all public servants. (M. Elphinstone to James Grant.)

10th July 1818

Sir,

My last instructions to you on subjects connected with revenue were calculated for a period when everything was secondary to the occupation of the Paishwa's territories; [the reduction of the country having now been accomplished,] our object is to perfect the civil administration.

Little need be said on the subject of justice and police in addition to what was contained in my former instructions. The heads of the villages and other revenue servants will conduct those departments under the orders of the Collector. The judicial business will be managed by punchayets whose awards are not to be set aside without some glaring impropriety. Panchayets may be formed in different ways: the best seem to be, to allow the parties to choose two members each, but for the public officer to nominate the umpire from the most respectable of inhabitants not in the service of the Government and not objected to by either party.

Offenders will be apprehended by the patails with the assistance of the village establishment, and by the subordinate revenue officers; but no punishments are to be inflicted except by the mamlatdars and their powers are not to exceed fines of one or two rupees or imprisonment for two days. Offences requiring severe punishments are to be immediately sent up to the Collector. Remissness in police duties must be punished by fine and dismissal from office. The fines, where the patials are the offenders, must be very small (from 4 annas to a rupee) and patails must never be displaced but for treason against the State. The Mamlatdars must report all punishments ordered by them to the Collector; and I shall be happy to receive, when time admits, a general report on the administration of justice and police. In times of greater leisure it would be desirable that I should receive monthly a brief statement of every offence complained of, and the punishment awarded.

With regard to the revenue, the internal management of the country, and the state of its resources require immediate and particular attention. I have already called on you in my letter of yesterday for the requisite information on that head.

For the present you will continue to collect the land revenue as has been the custom of the country through the patail, each ryot paying him for his cultivation. Greater care must be taken to avoid over assessment and much indulgence to the ryot will be necessary to overcome the effects of war and of a bad revenue system. You are to use every means to encourage the ryot to carry the cultivation to the utmost extent and where they actually require it you must assist them in purchasing cattle and seed. Great care must be taken in giving these advances, to ascertain that they are really wanted, to prevent any portion of the land lying waste and to time them so as to preclude the ryot being tempted to squander them before the season for cultivation arrives. They must always be paid into his own hands in the presence of the patail and coolcurnee, No advances ought to be made that you have not a prospect of recovering within the year. Security ought always to be taken, and that called zenjeer or sakul zaminee, by which, association of ryots become security for each of the members, is to be preferred to any other mode; as to that given by soucars tends ultimately to the impoverishment of the ryot.

Remissions must now be given with great caution, never promised till the end of the season, and then only granted on actual loss: when this loss arises from the failure of the crops the source from which revenue ought to be drawn, you may make the remission final but where it rises from the fire in the villages, plunder of house-hold goods and the like, they ought in most cases to be made subject to repayment within a fixed number of years. It is a matter of much difficulty to make the remissions reach the person for whom they are intended without being intercepted by the mamlatdars or patails. This will no doubt engage your attention in granting them. A penalty bond should be taken from the receiver, to pay back double the amount if, found to have obtained remissions on false pretences.

Coolcurnees and daishpandes and other hereditary accountants, ought to be obliged, on furnishing accounts, to enter into a

penalty bond subjecting themselves to a fine at the pleasure of Government if proved to have falsified their records.

The customs at the present collected are objectionable on many accounts, you will, however, continue to collect them, except, as you have been already instructed, where they appear manifestly unjust or oppressive. It is, however, desirable to simplify collections, and establish a uniform system at the earliest period, and for this purpose, I beg you to assemble, of the three or four principal trading towns under your authority, and to obtain from them a table of whole-sale prices of all articles of commerce, explaining weights and measures made use of in the settlement. These tables are to be immediately forwarded to me to enable me to form a tariff for the whole country. To discourage any attempt at deceiving you in these statements, it may be useful to apprise the merchants before they draw them up, that similar statements are preparing throughout the whole of the Paishwa's territories and those which border on them. I beg you also to state what persons in your district are entitled to collect customs, and what you think would be a fair compensation for the loss of that privilege.

Another point to which I beg to draw your attention is the means of supplying troops and European travellers on the principal roads with the least injury to the country. For this purpose I recommend your stationing peons at all the villages on the great roads whose duty it shall be to provide supplies, and to prevent irregularities on the part of individuals in procuring them for themselves. Notice will be sent to you when troops are likely to move through your districts; you can then order your peons to collect the requisite articles from the villages at a distance from the road. The owners will come with the goods and sell them at such prices as they may think expedient. With Europeans the case is different, I am of course aware of the pernicious consequences of neriicks or fixed prices, and of certain effects in occasioning the distress they are meant to remedy but in the particular case in question it is necessary to make use of this expedient to prevent greater inconveniences. I, therefore, beg you to make the requisite inquiries, and to form on them a table stating the prices of all articles required by European travellers. The prices are to be fixed somewhat higher than the ordinary prices of the country to encourage the people to sell the articles and counteract the bad

effects of fixing prices at all. The villages on the road will probably furnish sufficient supplies for travellers of this description without any notice, and it is to enable them to do this that I have requested provision for troops to be collected from more distant villages.

No detailed instructions hitherto been issued regarding native establishments, revenue and other officers have already been entertained in each district according to the idea of the officer at the head of it, and to the immediate exigency of the service. It is not intended that these arrangements should at once be overturned but as numerous opportunities will occur for gradually introducing a regular system it is requested that the following principles may be borne in mind in all alterations, whether called for by the death or dismissal of the present servants or by any new distribution of the districts of which they are in charge. The first point to consider is your own establishment which is termed by the natives Hoozoor Cutchery.

You are to keep a double daftar or set of accounts under two daftardars; they will serve to check and assist each other; their duty is to prepare and correct the accounts of the district; their pay should be four hundred rupees each. They should have as many accountants under them receiving forty to fifteen rupees each as may be found requisite. The daftardars are to be consulted by you generally in all that concerns the district, more particularly the revenue accounts and other details. It is desirable for the purpose of availing ourselves of the improvements in revenue introduced by our own government as that of establishing a more complete check on both parties that one of the daftardars should be a native of the Paishwa's country and the other of the Company's Provinces. I will take steps to procure a person of this description for your cutchery who will be accompanied by one or two accountants. I have only to beg that you may keep vacancies for these persons.

Hoozoor Treasury—A treasurer and deputy will each keep a separate account of the Department in the same manner with the daftardars. The treasurer to receive one hundred rupees, the deputy fifty a month with accountants on the same pay with those in the cutchery. A head shroff's pay about fifty rupees with two shroffs under him and a few confidential peons. Either the deputy

or the treasurer may be selected from the followers of the daftardar who comes from the old Provinces.

English Writers—One accountant on one hundred and fifty rupees, with writers as many as may be required.

Two Juwabneevesses to write orders, read letters and petitions and answer them, with two deputies. The Juwabneevesses pay one hundred rupees each, deputy twenty.

The requisite number of ink-makers, mashaljees, sweepers and peons will complete the Collector's Hoozoor establishment.

All orders to your district should be numbered and copied into books. The mamlatdars should be required to write on paper of one size, and that their letters may be patched into books as received; they should also be numbered. The advantage of this will also be to facilitate reference and check miscarriage.

It is desirable that the country under your charge should be divided into districts, or talooks of from fifty thousand to a lack of rupees each. The district ought not in general to exceed seventy thousand rupees in the commencement, and ought to be smaller when the government villages are so intermixed with those of zamindars, jageerdars or enams that it would make the range very large for one man to look after.

Each talook to be under a mamlatdar who is to have charge of the revenue and police of it. You will appoint a sheristadar under him whose particular duty it is to prepare all accounts, the correctness of which he is to vouch for by his signature in conjunction with the mamlatdar before transmitting them to the Collector. There should be three or four accountants fixed at the talook cutchery with the sheristadar to prepare the accounts, etc.

Shaikdars to assist the mamlatdars in settling and collecting the revenue, they are each to have the management of a certain number of villages yielding in all about fifteen thousand rupees revenue.

A jawabneevess to attend the mamlatdar constantly and to write his letters to the Collector and orders to shaikdars, patails, koolkurnees etc.

The shaikdars and jawabneevesses should be in the confidence of the mamlatdar, he might, therefore, in the first instance be

allowed to recommend people for those situations. There servants with a shroff and sebundies complete the talook revenue establishment. The pay of the mamlatdar should be about one hundred and fifty rupees a month for the largest talook and seventy for the smallest; that of the sheristdar from thirty five to fifty rupees; the accountants from twenty to thirty; the jawabneevess from fifteen to thirty and the shaikdars from fifteen to twenty in proportion to the extent of their district. The shaikdars not to be paid as formerly by the villages.

All these establishments are to be paid from the Hoozoor treasury. The guards that brings in the revenue will carry back the pay of the servants of the talook. This arrangment prevents the coins being changed in the districts, checks abuses and impositions and obviates the necessity that would often arise of causing disappointment by retrenching payments already issued by the local authorities. Receipts. are to be given by the mamlatdars for all sums received by him as public revenue, there are to be sufficient vouchers for the ryots and the Collector must in like manner grant his receipts to the mamlatdars for their monthly remittances, These reccipts must always specify the coin in which the money was paid.

I shall be much obliged to you for any suggestions that you think likely to contribute . . and I rely on your zeal and ability in carrying the rest of the plan into effect. The success of any system of government must depend on the exertion of the officers . . and in a new acquisition their personal attention is more required than elsewhere. Numerous abuses in all liklihood have crept in during the confusion of our first occupation, and many incapable servants must have been employed in the offices of trust. The only means by which you can expect to remedy these evils is by affording easy access to all comers, and a ready ear to all complaints. It would contribute to this end if you were able to move about the country under you and to give audience to persons who came to you without the presence of any of the native servants. No officer ought to be displaced without enquiry, but no man proved guilty of corruption ought to be retained in service and no punishment ought for a long time be inflicted on false accusation, for fear of deterring true ones. This rule will lead to infinite trouble but much trouble is indispensable to the proper

management of your subordinate officers, and it is on this branch of your duty that the success of your measures almost entirely depend.

No. 5. What arrangements were made for the collection of revenue. How the country was divided for the purpose of collecting revenue. (From James grant to M. Elphinstone).

Sir,

Having in my letter of the 14th ultimo reported our being in complete possession of the territories assigned to my charge, I have now the honor to lay before you the measures I have persued in furthering you instructions with respect to the collections and revenue of the country.

Though I have spared no pains this must be received as a mere guess statement for there has not, as you are well aware, been time to arrive at accuracy . . .

In my plan for dividing the country I was guided in a great measure by the conversations I had with you previous to my coming here. I proposed on receiving charge of the whole tract to the eastwards to form seven or eight grand divisions so as to be [able, consistent with economy, to have the situations of the mamlatdars sufficiently lucrative to make it desirable for men of ability and respectability to come forward as competitors and at the same time to serve as a check upon corruption by getting men who had some character at stake and who would be careful how they risked the loss of both reputation and emolument.

The turruf, of small tract around Satara, was to be kept distinct under the management of Vittal Punt the Raja's Furnawese . .

The proposed divisions were as follows : 1st Wace Soobeh, 2nd Jowlee Soobeh, 3rd Kurar Praunt, 4th Kuttao Des, 5th Fultun Des in which it was proposed to include from the Neera Bridge to a line about Ankloog and Yeleapoor and of the remainder I thought of making two or three grand divisions* . .

* But this part of the country was occupied by the army of General Munro with greater rapidity and, therefore, Grant hardly had the opportunity " of acquiring information regarding the Eastern and South-Eastern parts of the country ".

I shall proceed to describe the Division as they are, making such remarks as may occur either explanatory or relative to each :

1st Division. Waee Soobeh is remarkably fertile and populous and highly cultivated tract..

This is exactly now as it stands under the acting mamlatdar Shumboo Shastry, whose activity and laborious exertions have been such, that although there have been objections to his remaining at Waee, I should recommend his being continued in charge until another person can be found to conduct the judicial duties of the place.

Shumboo Shastry has proved himself an active magistrate on more than one occasion but being a native of Waee and rather of a surly disposition, he is obnoxious to many of the inhabitants who are generally brahmins and reckoned most wealthy and respectable people of the country; in their manners they are gentlemen-like and plausible and a great part of the small portion of learning to be found in the Mahratta country is concentrated at Waee, but they are generally ill disposed towards the British Government and they are intriguing and litigious to a very great degree.

Perhaps, when making the arrangements you may deem it advisable to grant a separate establishment for the judicial, police and magisterial duties of Waee where I believe it to be much wanted.

2nd Division. Jowlee Soobeh. This small but laborious charge extends from the source of the Kistna to Tarul Khora, a narrow tract about forty miles in length. Khoras are vallies formed by irregularities in the range of the Shayadree Hills or great Western Ghauts. These vallies are highly cultivated and some of the grandest and most beautiful scenery in the world is to be met with amongst them.

Notwithstanding the small revenue which it yields, the collections are very troublesome from the nature of the country, but this trouble is partly compensated by the disposition of the inhabitants; they are tractable, hardy and industrious. They have more roughness in features than their neighbours of the Concan, but they resemble them in character.

Pundoorung Wasdeo, the acting mamlatdar, is smart, active and intelligent, he has made no difficulties in his duties and has

brought information I required in a manner which has given me great satisfaction.

3rd Division. Kurar Praunt. The valuable tract of country is in charge of Yeswunt Rao Bappoojee Ghorbulay, a person well known to you, he made great progress for the first month he was out, but in consequence of a violent illness he was obliged to return before he had completed his inquiries.

This division is bounded on the south by the Warna river, on the west by the ghauts, on the north by a supposed line from the Nawa Ghaut to Tarela so as to include, Tarul Khora and on the east and south-east it adjoins Kattao Des and the Patwardhan Jagheer.

The southern boundary about Kolah, and Waroon Khora is generally much infested by thieves and robbers who formerly found shelter by retiring into the Kolapoor country when attempts were made to apprehend them and latterly all found employment and protection by joining the insurgents of Pritchithur.

Kurar Praunt is rich and highly cultivated throughout, but it has suffered in many places from the depredations of the banditti under the pretender Chittoor Sing, and by the exactions of some detached parties of the late Peshwa's horse.

4th Division. Kuttao Des, is bounded by the Mahdee Hills on the north, and where it does not adjoin Kurar by a range of hills on the west running nearly north and south from Nawee to Salpee pass. On the south of its boundary would be nearly defined by a line drawn from Balowanee to Diggajee on the Maun river, and its eastern boundary in the same way by a line drawn from Diggajee to Mahadoo Point.

This very extensive tract you will perceive is comparatively unproductive, for the amount of revenue is of course the criterion of the cultivation. Towards the northern boundary there are extensive low jungles and uncultivated stony wastes are common throughout.

This country which includes Maun Des is favourable for rearing horses and sheep. The horses are generally allowed to wander almost wild among the plains in the open country and the sheep thrive on the pick up among the almost barren hills of the Mahdeo range.

Nursing Rao Kurrey, the acting mamlatdar, has conducted his duties and inquiries in a satisfactory manner and I would recommend his being permanently appointed as a mamlatdar,

5th Division. Fultun Des. I regret to state from the inability and negligence of Rungo Punt, the acting mamlatdar, I have been disappointed in procuring the information I hoped to have been able to lay before you. The scraps of account he brought are useless indeed, he appears to be incapable of observing or communicating any useful knowledge. I ordered Abajee Nerhue to proceed immediately and take charge of the district directing Rungo Punt to come instantly to Satara.

Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkur, the hereditary jageerdar of Fultun Des, used to collect the revenue by assembling all the heads of villages, and after ascertaining the quantity of land in cultivation, a gross assessment was fixed on the whole, the amount being apportioned, so much for himself, so much for Dewastun etc., etc. according to established usage. The patells, therefore, assessed their respective villages as they thought proper and gave the jageerdar no further trouble. This plan of general assessment is, I believe, unusual if not unknown in the Mahratta country, except in the instance described.

I shall, hereafter, have the honor of transmitting an estimate of Fultun Des; in the meantime, after deducting the kusha and customs restored to Janrao, the remainder is guessed at half a lack of rupees.

I found on our arrival here the generality of the people of Satara so very poor that many of them had not the means of procuring the necessaries of life and everything was extremely dear.

To alleviate the general distress as much as possible by encouraging the people of the villages who had grain to bring in, and to make the first act of the Government popular I suspended temporarily all customs on the necessaries of life, but I propose levying the customary imposts as soon as the roads are open. To put on the customs at present would be no acquisition of revenue, but some temporarily loss of popularity.

Long before the period, when I propose re-establishing the customs I hope to be favored with your instructions in regard to the establishment generally; I have fixed nothing for the salaries.

I shall now proceed to prepare for you the required lists of sums collected by me, of the balances outstanding, and of probable periods of realization.

Further enquiries, as you may be pleased to direct, can be afterwards prosecuted.

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No. 6. Difficulties in collecting revenue and getting correct information necessary for good administration in the future. Incorrect accounts in the jagirdars' territories also. Most of the accounts were destroyed. Steps taken to collect revenue information. (From James Grant to M. Elphinstone).

30th January 1819

Sir,

I have had the occasion to mention to you the great difficulties which have been thrown in the way of my agents who have been employed to procure the 10 years accounts by the heads of villages and their karbarees, and I now begin to suspect by some of the principal Daishpandees. Many of the Kulkurnees are certainly extremely ignorant, but many of them wilfully withhold their real accounts, and such as have been produced, collected and thrown into form with infinite labor are in general false and incorrect, although every precaution and preventive, that could be devised, have been adopted in the progress of the inquiry.

However discouraging this may be I should not regret the loss of time, if I could be certain of obtaining so important an object in the end as that of procuring correct accounts for the last 10 years, but I believe it to be quite impossible. All that can be expected, after a complete revision of accounts, is a tolerably correct data upon which more perfect information can in time be obtained. It is not surprising that the village Karbarees should endeavour to surpress information. It was the ignorance of the farmers of the revenue which enabled the villages to evade the heavy exactions which would otherwise have been imposed upon them, and in some parts of the country they had greater facilities of doing so than in most other quarters of the Paishwa's dominions.

The celebrated Naroo Babjee, Soobehdar of Ahmednuggur, and Naroo Appajee, mamlatdar of Poona Des, were contemporary

with Hybut Rao Bhowanee Shunkur, Soobehdar and hereditary Daishpandey of Wace. Hybut Rao's accounts, even if procurable are not to be depended on, whereas, the others are estimated correct.

Hybut Rao's assessments were not heavy but he is said to have been corrupt and neglectful in his system. Patells were at no trouble to make their kulkurnees keep correct accounts as a contrary plan was to their disadvantage. As to the accounts of recent farmers many of them merely are as per last years accounts delivered.

The Prithee Nidhee's accounts are incorrect and Gockla's notoriously so. The system which prevailed in Fultun Des, I have previously explained, correct accounts could not be expected.

When the village accounts are called forth a complete false set are produced or they declare that they have been lost in consequence of the sudden death of an old kulkurnee who had burned them unknown to any person living, or that they were burned accidentally or destroyed by Futtehsing Mama and other plunderers.

All these stories are for the most part unworthy of credit, when an accident of that kind has happened to the accounts of any considerable village, it is easily authenticated by respectable testimony if they really are telling truth.

Some of the kulkurnees have brought forward the real accounts of their villages in bundles of old papers which they could neither examine nor understand. Some of the accounts have been produced by threats and some have come forward with what are believed to be tolerable correct documents in consequence of their supposing that there was previous information; but none have given in their accounts willingly.

From all I have now and before stated it will be apparent that there was a necessity for taking some immediate steps, more substantial than mere threats, not only in order to procure the former accounts more correct, but to prevent the great impositions likely to be practised in the revenue settlement of the current year.

I had information from discontented persons in various villages that the more detailed and satisfactory was an account brought to me of the impositions practised by the patells and kulkurnees of the village of Chicklee and the Saidoorgund which are

क. म. न. व. मा. वीतदापः

ग्रंथ संग्रह

enams appropriated for the use of the temple of Ehweera Dewee on the Sakuryhur Hill near Kenneye. The informant's name is Abajee Berey, an intelligent carcoon, formerly in the service of Prithee Nidhee; and as examples had become necessary, it was not only desirable to have previous detailed information that the facts should be established, and the punishment take place as promptly as possible, but it was less odious to commence with attaching the inheritance of those who had embezzled revenue appropriated for religious purposes.

I proceeded to the Korygaon talooka for the purpose of making the enquiry and settling some part of the jumma bundy, whilst Mr. Barnett remained with the Raja and carried on the ordinary duties at Satara.

On examining the accounts tendered by the villagers the jumma of Chicklee was stated at 1399.2.0 in place of 2027.10.0 and of that of Sindoorganna at 871.0.0 in place of 1095.12.0. When the patells and kulkarnees said that I had their real accounts, and that I was in earnest in regard to attaching their inheritance, they immediately admitted that the accounts I held were the former correct accounts and that they could bring papers which could explain the observable difference. I gave them one complete day to produce them, and as they were not forthcoming at the end of that time. I sequestered their inheritance. Upon this I issued an immediate proclamation calling on all hereditary officers to come forward with all the authentic information and documents in their possession, and allowing those who had given in accounts a period of thirty days to correct them failing which their inheritance would be liable to be sequestered.

The immediate effect of this was that I next day discovered that patells and kulkarnees of the village of Kenneye had embezzled 65 begas of the very best land of the village. The kulkurnee had behaved extremely ill in the manner of giving in his accounts to the mamlatdar. He gave an excuse for some part of his statement that he was told to do by the Daishpondy of Waee. I therefore, sent for the kulkurnee to Satara and summoned the Daishpondy to meet me there a few days hence.

The enormous sum of 500 Rs. in 2000 rupees of land revenue was concealed by the kulkurnee of the village of Jamb which I should not have easily discovered but for information given me

by the patail after the kulkurnee had admitted the fact, the patel, came next morning and told me he was a poor man and asked for 100 ruppees to buy bullocks. I promised him two hundred and a pugree.

At the village of Bhoosa the accounts were produced in a very satisfactory manner and the settlement effected in a few hours.

I arrived here this morning and find the account in great disorder but they appear to be all willingly produced. On my return to Satara I shall send for the villagers of Chicklee and Sindoorgunna and remove the sequestration from their lands on their producing correct accounts...

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No. 7. An account of the revenue arrangement and a statement of the amount collected and outstanding balances. Revenue administration in the jagirs. System of measuring lands and how revenue was distributed. A description of revenue administration in various parts of Satara. Bajirao's administration was ruinous to the country. What system of assessment to follow. Maratha administrative system in the best days of their government. A detailed description of various land tenures, especially the Miras. (From James Grant to M. Elphinstone)

17th August 1819.

Sir,

In the month of July 1818, I had the honor to receive your instructions respecting the mode to be adopted in forwarding the revenue arrangements, and I have now the honour to report my proceedings, the progress of my enquiries, and to forward a general statement of the jumma of the sirkar and jageer revenue, showing the total collected of each, the amount outstanding and the probable outstandings and the probable period at which the balance will be realised.

I have before stated the obstacles which prevented the fulfilment of your orders in regard to framing accounts for a series of ten years, and I was at last obliged to give up all hopes of being able to obtain any correct average in this way, as I found, that further perservance was a loss of time and that the immediate arrangements were obstructed by it.

The nature of these obstacles however require some explanation which I shall afford in some detail in order to show the exact state of accounts in this district.

I have formerly described the mode of assessment practised by Jan Rao Naik Nimbalkur, the hereditary jageerdar of Fultun Des.

Wae Soobeh which included Korygaon was for 74 years under the management of the family of the present Deshpandy until the introduction of the farming system. The Deshpandy's ancestors retained the revenue superintendence more from establishing a personal good understanding with the authorities in Poona than from a superiority of management as government servants.

The original Moghul measurement is only partially procurable, and the latest estimate, on which most of the present village accounts are framed, was made by Sham Rao Ambajee, a relation of the Deshpandy. He has not used a uniform standard and he has only measured the arable lands, sometimes only the lands under cultivation at the time of the measurement and estimated the rest which no doubt afford opportunities of embezzling considerable portions, which we shall not be able to discover without a regular survey.

The measurement professed to be used by Sham Rao Ambajee was the Shao Shahee which, although I cannot find that it was ever used by Sivajee, is called Sivajee standard measure, and is said to be five cubits and five hand breadths, but this is not uniform, almost every naikwaree or hereditary land measures produces a *khattee* or rod which varies in length from 5 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ cubits.

The two measures were stone in Katta Des which are sometimes referred to as the correct Shao Shahee and Edilashahee standard measures, the former 6 cubits and 5 hand breadths and the latter 5 cubits and 3 hand breadths of a person 5 feet 11 inches in height.

By the present measurement of the kusba of Wae and a former one made by the Moghuls, discovered by a paper procured from a very old inhabitant of the place, I find a difference of 1500 begas in the arable land out of 28 chaows. I have employed people in order to discover the embezzlement or to reconcile the Deshpandy's statement with the old measurement. I have spent hours for days together in attending to the investigation in hopes

that the detection of the suspected fraud would lead to the development of something of consequence, but after hearing everything I am quite at a loss to say whether there be fraud or not.

Still further, to perplex the subject and confuse the Waee accounts, the Deshpandy settled the villages according to the measurement of Sham Rao Ambajee but continued to bring every account before government in the Edil Shahee Chaour. Nothing can unravel this or procure correct accounts from those districts but a careful survey.

When the original Divisions of Maratta reveuue took place under the administration of Balajee Wishwanath, there was a defined difference in the settlement for Waee, Kuttao and Kurar—it was as follows, the total amount of revenue having been found, the first deduction was chouth which was at the time assigned to the Chowan family. The three-fourths were equally divided into Seva raje and Moghly—the Seva raje was again equally divided into Mokassa and Babtee.

At a period long after, as late as 1757, when Oodajee Chowan has been dispossessed of the chouth, and when disputed claims between the Paishwa and the Prithwee Niedhee had subjected the ryots to great distress, a previous engagement having been made with them, the following was settled by both the authorities as the general heads of collection on the proportion of 100 rupees of land revenue :

Khalsa	37-8-0
Sewaraje	37-8-0
Chouthaee	25-0-0
	100-6-0

The Sewaraje was subdivided into Babtee	18-12-0
Mokassa	18-12-0

a percentage was calculated to liquidate the following annual claims and levied upon each hundred of revenue

Surदेशमोके	10-0-0
देशमोके	5-0-0
देशपण्डय	2-8-0
नागवण्डे	2-0-0
देशचोगुला	1-4-0
साहोत्रा	6-0-0

and on additional (zhastee puttee, salabad) annual extra assessment was paid of $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent.

There were the regular assessments which were then to be subdivided into shares :

Jeelhe bab of the Prethee Nidhee		Hoozoor Mamla or the Paishwa	
Khalsee	37-8-0	Chowthae	25-0-0
Babtee	18-12-0	Surdeshmokee	10-0-0
Sahootra	6-0-0	Deshmokee	5-0-0
		Zhastee Puttee	
		Salabad	7-0-0

The Hauqdars whose rights were then in existence :

Deshpandy	2-8-0 pt
Nargoundie	2-0-0 pt
Deshchougula	1-4-0 pt

It was further settled that whatever person then possessed the Mokassa should retain it and were not appropriated. It was to belong to the Prithee Nidhee; but where any Mokassa, then held by a third person, should hereafter revert in any way to the sirkar, it was to become the right of the Paishwa.

All fines were to be equally divided and customs proportionally as the Division of 100 rupees land revenue.

The Prithee Nidhee agreed to pay an annual sum to the Punt Sucheem in lieu of sahautra.

The above distribution it will be observed is upon a calculation of the land revenue, hence when exactions came to be imposed, it was the interest of each to keep down the land revenue whilst the taxes and extra assessment and exactions of the Hoozoor Mamla in Waee and of the Jeelhe bab in Kurar were added to in every possible way that ingenuity would suggest.

The rebellious Prithee Nidhee tended to the destruction of the village accounts and his own records have been almost totally lost.

In Mainee there has in many places been no estimate of the quantity of the land and very few villages can shew either a classifi-

cation or a measurement. A thekke may be a field of five or fifty beegas of six rupees or of sixty—of 5 maunds or 5 candies they are quite uncertain, and the estimate is made at what the ryot paid in the former years. Mainee was a part of the Prithee Nidhee's jageer and has been temporarily in the possession of various masters.

Buttes Serala has been subject to a like disadvantage and was lately much devastated by the depredations of the insurgents of Pritchithur.

In Balownee there is a measurement and classification of the land in some villages dated in the fussulee year 1180—but having since that period fallen into disorder and decay there is no telling exactly what each individual possessed although the whole measurement may be correct. The land is divided into various Thuls which may be one or more fields and are of unknown and uncertain extent—the land does not pay nearly the Kumal even where long cultivated, and it will in all probability take a very long period to bring it up to the original appraisement.

Parul Khora is the only part of Jowlee Soobeh which has been measured and, indeed, the fields do not admit of it there, or in the large part of the western side of Butee Seralā, in the tract in or near the hills which are there termed mooras and are of a similar description to the Mawul of Poona and Khoras of Satara.

Whilst most other parts of the country during the vigor of the administration of the Peshwas' were in charge of servants appointed by government and distinguished for their ability and good management, this district had no such advantage, the principal authorities were the Nimbalkurs' of Fultun, the Thorads of Walva, the hereditary Deshpandy's of Waee and the Prithee Nidee.

Wherever the possessions of these persons were sequestrated during the time of Bajee Rao, the revenue farming system was adopted, which although it had often been partially used by the Marattas was not introduced generally until the late Paishwa had recourse to it.

Bajee Rao used to let out large provinces to persons about his Court and the favorite of the day was he who offered most



money. They were always given to the highest bidder. The persons who thus obtained their contract farmed out by divisions, which were again farmed in smaller shares, progressively each contractor obtaining his profit and his right of exaction down to the muqudum, who was accountable for the revenue of his village at a fixed rate, and who thus had unlimited power in assessing the ryots subject to his authority.

When the patell was a person of no interest or consequence and refused to pay the amount fixed by the petty contractor, he was frequently confined and threatened in every possible way until he complied with the demand, and if unable to pay at the periods fixed, there were additional sebundies sent to live upon the village, fines were imposed under various heads of mussalla or fine for the first breach of punctuality viz., additional fines for every days delay Kumur Khoolan, or consideration to the messenger who might be kept waiting when sent to bring any of the village officers with a variety of others.

The assessment was made with no reference to the cultivation, it was commonly known to the farmer for the time being what the village had paid before, otherwise, he would not have been able to reimbrauce himself and, indeed, failed in doing so; he had no time to make himself acquainted with the resources of the country which were only correctly known to the head officers of each of the village, and these officers always pretended, that although they had complied with what the farmer had imposed, yet they trusted that he would conceal the over assessment made by him, which the farmer always acceded to, and upon receiving a bribe, a falsefied account was signed by him and kept by the villagers in the hope of cheating the next mamlatdar.

This system is so unfavourable to plain dealing to all parties was of course ruinous to the country, and the villages were frequently obliged to borrow large sum at an exorbitant interest to liquidate their outstanding balances, and this load of debt is very general throughout the country. I am quite at a loss in what to propose on this subject. It appears but just that the soucars who lent this money should be reimbursed in some way, at all events and to the extent of the principal, although lent in full confidence of the stability of that government which had thus driven its subjects to this last shift of decayed proprietors but I have,

hitherto, put off all claims of this nature, because I think that the enforcing of these demands to the extent to which the soucars can prove would not only drain the country of all capital and prevent its emerging from its present impoverished state for a long series of years but it would drive many of the cultivators from the district.

If what I said in regard to the accounts of the district be taken into consideration, both before and after the accession of the late Paishwa, the difficulty of obtaining the correct interior accounts can be easily imagined. I took an opportunity of stating some of these obstacles to you verbally when at Poona in December last and you then recommended that if I could not obtain the ten years accounts in time to be of service in fixing the average assessment, that I had better adopt whatever seemed best, taking care not to deviate from the usage of the country.

Shortly after my return to Satara I found that all the more experienced of my native servants were of the opinion that the only way of obtaining a correct average assessment, without actual measurement, was to settle the jumma bundy for a series of years in the mode termed by the Marratas kucha mamlet, referring to accounts of 30 and 40 years back when procurable, taking the then jumma as the kumal, allowing due deduction for the unclutivated land, and making the balance the amount payable by each village, admitting any other reasonable deduction for the first year or two on any tolerable grounds, so that the assessment might be easy and enable the ryot to recover capital and confidence.

This was the mode I, therefore, resolved to adopt, at all events for the first year, and in now describing the Marrata system with reference to my own proceedings I am desirous that it should be previously understood that I have followed the plan recommended without deviation, excepting when there appeared anything obviously improper. I do not, therefore, pretend to say that this or that mode is the best. I wish to describe what was the Marrata system in the better days of their government.

The mode of settlement is as follows: the mamletdar with or without the Collector goes to a village and having sent for the village officers the accounts for the year are called for. The Zumeen Jhara or a register of the whole fields, the name of each,

the quantity and quality of the land, the tenure by which each field is held, the name of the person holding it for the current year, the kumal or established appraisement, and amount actually payable by its present occupant.

The Bhot Khut or Koolorig, which is a list of all persons in the village whether koonbies (cultivators) or Oodmus (banians and trades people) the quantity of land each holds during the year, the total amount of the rent, extra payments and taxes and the instalements by which the whole is paid. The remissions which may have been granted, and the balances outstanding against each person are all inserted in this document.

The Tusheel shewing the different huftas or instalements by which the revenue has been realized and paid.

The Jurtee or Talibund to shew the whole of the revenue under each separate head, the charges upon it and the balance.

The Kulkurnee has a variety of other accounts which, however, are more details of these—there is one called Awurza or a current account with every individual in the villages which it may be sometimes useful to call for.

When the allowance for the uncultivated land, as well as for all deductions, usual or in the immediate case admitted, had been settled by any alteration necessary, was made by the village officer in the individual assessment which they had previously made and the whole of the ryots were then assembled and each separately asked what land he held and what he paid—what each paid for the Sewaee jumma and what proportion of the Sadilward fell to his share—each answer was compared with the Koolrig, and upon finding that these two corresponded and that the Mohoturfa or Oodmees paid as in former years, it was supposed that everything was right. Every one present was encouraged to speak out, to state their complaints, distresses or grievances anything that appeared reasonable was inquired into and as lenient a consideration as seemed proper was allowed in all instances of this description which came within my own or Mr. Burnett's observation, and in like manner all representations supported by good reasons from mamlatdars were invariably attended to in making the assessment moderate and easy without removing any of the sources of revenue with the origin and intention of which we had not complete and satisfactory information.

The jumwabundy was next prepared in very great detail, the village officers giving bonds, by which in addition to the ordinary qoobleeat or mockulka they agreed to forfeit their inheritance, in case of any fraudulent collusion being hereafter discovered in any single item inserted in this paper. The account of the jumwabundy was then examined by me or forwarded for that purpose, when after taking a copy of each to be deposited in the Duftar at Satara, the original was numbered, signed and sealed by me and transmitted to the muqudum of the village in return for the paper above mentioned.

I have here described the progress regularly, which if it could have been as regularly accompolished, there would have been few inaccuracies and no obstacles but the case has been far otherwise. it would be useless entering into a detail of difficulties.

Previous to detaching Mr. Burnett, after I had settled several of the villages myself, he accompanied me to the neighbourhood of Satara that we might make no deviation in our method. He was then sent out to the eastwards to examine the stated of the country, generally to observe the conduct of the mamlatdars in the execution of their orders and to settle the jumwabundee of the principal viliages in Mainee, Kanapore, Punderpoor, Balownee and Fultun.

This duty Mr. Burnett performed to my satisfaction.

This country is divided into divisions which are variously termed Soobeh, Praunt, Des etc , into subdivisions of Turuf Summut, Kuryat, Khora, Moona etc., and into villages generally called Gaum, but which are distinguished as Kusba, Mouza Peta, Muzree or Waree.

There are fourteen divisions each managed by a mamlatdar, whilst each subdivision is commonly superintended by a shaikdar. The muqudum is the head patell and manager in each village; the interior of which is regulated in the manner general throughout India.

In regard to the cultivation the ryots, at the commencement of each season, are assembled in the village chowree. The muqudum there addresses them, tells them to go on with the cultivation as they had done the year before, and that nothing additional shall be levied. After this a great deal of conversation takes place and

whilst the patell hears all the ryots have to say, he encourages, persuades or reproves as may seem necessary.

Sometimes to assist a poor neighbour the ryots are free to take a portion of his rent on themselves, and sometimes, when there is occasion for it, advances of money called, Tuguee are recommended by the mamlatdar and sent from the treasury to assist the poorer ryots. The mamlatdar is guided in this by personal observation and the representation and opinions of the patells and shaikdars.

At these village meetings there is often much opposition and cavilling but they commonly end in all going quietly to their occupation and beginning the labors of the year after the muqudum had distributed neem leaves, goor, pan sooparee.

The plough is in general drawn with from four to ten bullocks but I have seen as many as seven pairs in the neighbourhood of Satara. Every man, therefore, cannot afford to yoke a plough, and neighbours are obliged to assist each other. There are no ryots here who farm on a large scale and I questioned if any koon-bee in the district could yoke two ploughs. The ground where the soil is good does not require to be ploughed annually, only once in two or three years. The instrument called the Kulloo answering the purpose of a hoe, and drawn by bullocks is found sufficient in the intermediate time for preparing the ground for the reception of the seed.

The fields are sown with a sort of drill called kooree or pabar, where one man in front guides the bullocks and puts the grain slowly into one wooden tube whilst another person immediately behind keeps putting the seed into another that there may be no part missed and the seed equally deposited along the drill. They never sow broadcast in Des or open country but it is the common way in the Moora and Kheras. Seed which is indigenous is incomparably the best, and it is surprising the short distance in which a falling off is said to be perceptible.

The arable land is divided into laonee or cultivated and pur the waste or fallow.

The lands under cultivation are distinguished as багает or мulla and жирает or коорудваху that is irrigated and not irrigated.

The bagaet is subdivided into patustil or lands watered from a running stream and motustil when supplied from wells. The former requiring less labor than the latter, pays a higher rent by about 1/5th. The jeraet is classed into 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.

The soil in this district is generally excellent between the Sahyadree hills and Yairla river and also from the Mahadeo range to the Neera; and all along the river to Punderpoor the lands are well cultivated and the crops very abundant...

In the better parts of the district the average rate at which the land pays is upwards of 5 rupees per beega.

The mode of cultivation in all the hilly tracts is the same. After burning down a patch in the jungle during the dry season they plough or more commonly dig it when the rain falls.

These detached pieces when in cultivation are called koomlay or Dhullay.

In the bagaet lands there is sugarcane raised of every description.

Tabacco yields a very profitable return to the cultivator and improves the ground but cotton, though also advantageous, exhausts the ground and is, therefore, less cultivated than tobacco.

Opium is rare but bang is very common. In the hills there are large herds of buffaloes on which there is a revenue drawn by government under the head of Dhungur Mahal which has been invariably granted in contract...

A third contract on a product of the Shyadree hills from a duty on the manufacturing of iron remains to be mentioned this is termed Darwar Mahal; each person employed in extracting the metal pays annually in kind one tuwee (an instrument for toasting native bread) and a phal or plough sock. The iron is of a short brittle quality of inferior value; its proportion may be 6 to 4 of bar iron, but it answers for the common agricultural instrument. The contract is let for about 300 rupees.

With regard to the mode of realizing the revenue, during the farming system, part of the contract money was some time advanced by the farmer and the balance paid up by instalments. Bajirao however, was not in the habit of taking any advance latterly as he

instituted thirteen instalments, twelve of which were fixed and payable monthly and the thirteenth was to be paid when called for.

The late Paishwa brought the amount of his receipts to accounts under two general heads — sirkar or government cash, and a hidden personal emolument.

The contracts in the Durbar were commonly fixed in Furshye and Mulhar Shye rupees, the established difference of exchange between which and the Ankoshye is 2 per cent in favor of the former, this rate was exacted in all inferior contracts down to the village payments and as the assessments were formerly payable in that coin it would perhaps be only fair to require this in all realization of revenue which, however, I have not done in the last years settlement of this district.

The collections are made in four instalments or huftas three of which correspond with the name of the several crops and the fourth is the balance or close of year of accounts viz.

1. Toossar	about October
2. Khureef	„ January
3. Rubbee	„ March
4. Akhirsal	„ May and June

The way of collecting this from the villages is by a proportional assessment made by the patell and the kulkurnee.

It is not usual to take security from the patell or from the ryot for the payment of the revenue but in case of there being any ryot likely to run away before he pays his rent, it is not unusual to arrest the crop [until he pays the government dues or finds security for doing so.

The two principal heads under which the general revenue is realized are the Aeen jumma or land revenue and the Sewaee jumma or extra revenue. These are collected together, and there are no distinct periods for their payment.

The additional payment by the ryots are for what is termed Sadilwarid. which provides for most of the public expenses of the village and a variety of charges.

The Sadilwarid is not realized in any uniform manner it is customary in some places to deduct the amount on account of

Sadilwarid from the jumma of the village. Sometimes it is 20 to 25 per cent on the revenue and the balance after paying all necessary expenses is brought to the credit of the government. It is frequently a percentage on the land revenue of so much per beega amounting to nearly 25 per cent, and it is sometimes levied by the patell and the kulkurnee according to the expenses they have incurred, a statement of which ought to be open to the inspection of the ryots and of the government.

The Sadilwarid provides for a number of demands, part of the allowances of the hereditary officers, which I shall more particularly mention presently, is defrayed from this amount as are all extra expenses incurred by the patell and kulkurnee when summoned to a distance on village affairs, established dewastan and wurshasun, offering of charity, condolence, submission or civility and in performance of religious rites and observances, charges for public amusements requested and regulated by the ryots and sanctioned by the patell are also included in this and a variety of other items. But independent of the established Sadilwarid it was usual with the village officers, even in better times of the former government, to raise an extra puttee or assessment as often as an excuse presented itself. This I immediately put a stop to and allowed no extra putee whatever. If the ryot chose to make a voluntary contribution for a jutra or festival they might do so but there is no arbitrary imposition allowed.

The patells in most part of the country tried by every means to get the Sadilwarid deducted from the jumma but it was levied exactly according to the prevailing usage of the village in former times.

The hereditary officers, or those termed such, are the Dais-hmook, Daishpandy, Nargownday, Desh Chougula, Patell, Kulkurnee and Chougula.

Deshmook and Deshpandy are compound Shanscrit words and the institution of this office is accounted very ancient. They have been termed zumeendars by mahomedans a name which the modern Deshmook and Deshpandy are ambitious of retaining but I have seen nothing to prove their having been on the footing of the moghul zumeendars.

The claims of the hereditary officers or huqdars in this district

partake of the intricacy and confusion in which the whole accounts are involved.

The Deshmook's huq is very variable. In Fultun Des it is one fourth of the whole revenue. In Kurar it is a twentieth part of the arable land and five per cent of the revenue. In Mainee perhaps nearly the same, but with a claim to one half of all fines levied within the district which has however not been satisfactorily established. In Neerthurree it is the assigned enam land and a simple fixed money payment which is paid wholly or in part. The Deshmooke of Waee was the same as Kurar but the huq or wuttun (as the right is termed) was for a time attached by Shaow the 4th Raja, the ready money huq was then raised to 10 per cent and when it was restored to the Piscal family the extra 5 per cent was not given to them but it was continued on account of government under the head of Punchowtree literally 5 per cent.

To this exaction and an extra assessment of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the Surdeshmooke of Waee may be ascribed the permanent extra assessment of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on Kurar which has been already noticed.

The Deshpandy huq is also not uniform it may be reckoned at one half of that of the Deshmook, both commonly have claims upon the customs.

The Nargownda has also some claims on the customs he has his huq in enam lands and a money payment from the sadilwarid.

Deshmook and Deshpandys, style themselves zumeendars. Whilst the patells and kulkurnees come under the very general term wutundars. The patell has enam lands mushaira, a ready money payment on the sadilwarid, an allowance for sirpaw, and sometimes or rarely, a share in the customs, he also receives a contribution in kind from the ryot termed googree.

The kulknrnee has also enam lands on assessment on money on the sadilwarid, besides seepaee allowance, the grain payment made to the kulkurnee is termed mushaira.

The Chowgula has a smaller share in a similar manner.

The Balootay have lands and a huq in kind from the ryot.

In the Maratta country all inheritance go by the name of wutun, and no one would willingly part with his wutun (even) if much more than its intrinsic value were offered for it. The most serious

distress is that of being compelled to sell one's wutun. The feeling is singularly strong and is not easily understood or described. The attachment to a house, a field or a garden we can enter into, but wutun is sometimes merely the right to a few blades of bajree from the vegetable sellers from the bazar, which I have seen maintained with an eagerness which did not proceed from its value but from its being wutun. I have seen two women fight and tear each other in the streets of Satara because the one had removed a loose stone from near the house "which was part, said the enraged and aggrieved person of my wutun". This feeling will be found universal but here it is peculiarly observable.

All the hereditary officers can sell their wutun but some require to have the sanction of the government. Consent, I am inclined to think, is always requisite, to be regular but in some cases such as patells or other executive and important officers it is indispensibly necessary; in the sale of every species of inheritance the next of kin has the first offer and so down to the nearest neighbour. This is a rule of right even in the disposal of a house which may not have been acquired as patrimony. If the house or street are east and west the neighbour on the east side has the preference. If north and south the one to the south has the first offer.

The sale of any hereditary office is a very formal procedure, an attested acknowledgement of the acts being voluntary and proceeding from circumstances, which are to be generally stated, is the preliminary adjustment. I have examined papers of the sale of an hereditary office and found the amount above 50 years purchase of all known emoluments but besides the purchase money there are fees to government and regular dues to be paid to the other hereditary officers upon admitting another person into the gote. The whole of the hereditary officers are amenable to a tax called the dolinq puttee which is the whole amount of their huq exclusive of their enam lands and may be levied every tenth year. This has never been regularly levied and is a very unpopular tax. At the first view it only seems reasonable that those officers, when not executive, should be required to contribute something to the needs of the State, yet many poor women and families, who have small shares of huq, would be greatly distressed by it, unless it could be levied on individuals possessing above a certain income derivable

form this source but this would require a minuteness of information which we cannot acquire.

All persons who possess hereditary rights to any field come under the head of wutundars of such and such a village, though they may have actually resided all their lives at Gawlior, whereas all those who do not possess this right though present in the village and though they and their ancestors may have resided there for a century are termed in common with the passing Maratta traveller who has slept a night in the Dhurmasala-Oopree or stranger.

The common farmer holds his land upon a contract or lease from the village authorities which is called qoul, it is generally renewed from year to year and seldom exceeds three years. He is obliged to conform to the customs of the village and commonly pay his sirkar dues in money, he is said to hold his land in Kund Mukta or Ookta.

A Waundakuree is a person who holds lands in a similar manner but beyond the limits of his own village boundary.

A Shreekuree is one who holds lands virtually the property of the government, the shree is commonly a particular species of property which may have reverted to government either by becoming forfeited or by some former purchase for the purpose of planting trees. It may also have been land which from time immemorial has not been within the bounds of any village. A Shreekuree may be a person holding a few mango trees for the season.

A person renting lands under agreement of paying half the produce in kind is said to hold it in Bhuttaye.

The ryot, however, whose situation merits most particular attention is the cultivator of lands in which he has a hereditary and proprietary right and who holds his land in perpetuity on paying a fixed rent to government. To this tenure you have particularly directed inquiries and I shall endeavour to state all I have been able to collect respecting these miras lands.

The Mirasdar has without doubt a perfect property in his fields as long as he continues to pay the amount with which it may be burdened together with the right of disposing of it even without the sanction of government. How he originally became possessed

of this right it is difficult to account for, there is no direct evidence of the whole land having been all mirasee in ancient times. But there is proof in the Thul Jhara, or the records of the fields in villages, that a vast quantity of land formerly registered meras is now Kundmukta or held in common lease.

An opinion prevails that all land was originally meras, and that in ancient Hindoo Raje, the soil became the acknowledged property of the person who first cleared it of stones and jungle.

Simple insolvency on the part of the Merasdar does not appear to have given govenment the power of disposing of his fields in meras to another. When the Merasdar cannot pay his rent the amount of the dues fall on the other Merasdars should the insolvent merasdar remain present in the village, but if he should quit the district the others are not called upon to pay the rent. During his absence the government has a right to make the most of the field and even to let it on lease, but for a period usually not exceeding three years, and till the expiration of which the Merasdar cannot claim restitution.

The numerous examples of a less forbearing conduct on the part of the late government can be adduced, I am well aware, but there is no species of property in this country that has been so much respected as meras land...there has always been great consideration shown to the merasdar, instances of declared forfeiture are accordingly very rare, but great crimes such as treason, robbery, theft and murder are always considered as destroying the right to all meras and indeed to every species of property whatever, but meras land generally goes to the nearest of kin. In all cases it seems to have been considered right that a reasonable provision should be made to the regulations even when the ostensible head of a family had committed any unpardonable offence. Had this not been customary many persons owing to the divisibility of property amongst heirs would have been deprived of their only means of livelihood for the commission of crimes in which they had borne no participation. This accounts in some manner for the portions of huqs etc., which are so frequently credited to government in the annual village settlement.

Mirasdars, who are absentees, are termed by Marattas Paragunda. It is also well understood that no Mirasdar willfully quits his land, that it is considered the duty of a good patell, and of all

superior government servants. to use every endeavour to discover and to remove the cause of his leaving his home and the field of his forefathers. If poverty has been the cause his rent is remitted and an advance of money granted — and if it has been occasioned by any unsettled dispute an investigation and adjustment are promised by government. Should every inducement fail and the Mirasdar pertinaciously and unreasonably persist in remaining abroad, he can be required to give a written renunciation of his meras rights, which when obtained, allows the government a full power of disposing of his lands. But without this document there is no authority that can dispose of such land in miras to another until the death of the Mirasdar and the death or renunciation of his heirs. In case of its being thought an object to ascertain this the mode of doing so is from the village — should the villagers bear testimony to the certain or supposed death of the Mirasdar and his heirs government can then dispose of the land to another person in meras, and should any heir afterwards appear, he has no claim whatever unless he can clearly prove that the evidence of the villagers was given knowing it to be false, or that he had been in such a situation as had put it entirely out of his power to keep the patell and wutundars of the village informed of his being alive, when such can be proved, he has a right to the field upon the payment of all loss, or other equitable charges either to the government or the occupant; but under the circumstances just described, and in all others when the field is merely held by an ordinary cultivator, in the case of the return of the rightful heir, the meras must be restored at the expiration of the lease which is usually done without requiring arrears of deficiency to be made up, although it is admitted that government has the right to demand them. As to paying for improvement, the ordinary cultivator had no security until the issue of the late orders for any outlay and consequently would not incur an expense which was not likely to be returned in crop during the existence of his lease.

Sillidars about to take the field, or any person in immediate want of money, frequently mortgage their meras land, the value of which of course depends entirely on circumstances.

To form a precise estimate of the number of years purchase of meras land is by no means easy and will require more inquiry and much longer experience than can be obtained in one season.

My present notion is that when the established assessment only is levied the ryot has on a fair average, one third of the gross produce. The government has a third and a third goes for the seeds, huqdars, bullocks, implements and subsistence to cattle, the years purchase would, therefore, be found by a series of years rents and in an average of thirty deeds of sale from 1780 to 1810 which I have examined. The general rate is ten years purchase.

Industry and natural advantages may improve a field so much as to yield a Merasdar upwards of $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the produce. The years purchase in these cases can only be ascertained by fair statements from the occupant, which I cannot say I have been able to obtain satisfactorily, either from a want of intelligence or more probably of candour, the people cannot yet be brought to understand the intention of such inquiries.

Land held at will I suppose may leave one fourth of the gross produce in the hands of the ryot, but for the reason just stated I have no other means of ascertaining the fact than the following observation.

The koonbees, not merasdars, prefer the tenure called bhuttaye, that is dividing the produce with government, to the ordinary farm. The mode of this division is first to set aside the dues of the patell and kulkurnee and balootay—then the quantity required for next years seed, after which, the division is made and the rest of the huq dues fall on the government share, but after the first deductions the subsequent divisions, the wear and tare of the implements, the purchase of cattle and finding their subsistence, there will remain little more than a fourth of the gross produce.

Meeras, therefore, appears to be a very desirable tenure as long as the established fixed assessment, usual in the country, continue to be equitably levied as the merasdar not only has much more personal consideration shewn him by his townsmen but he has all the advantages which industry can give him in the way of improvement, but when pretences were sought of extorting extra payments it was worst then the ordinary lease as it placed the proprietor more in the power of the revenue farmer. Thus meras land latterly became of no value, and had it been possible for such a system of undefined exaction to have gone on without control for any length of time, it is highly probable that the meras tenure would have disappeared.

In estimating what fall to the ryot of the gross produce a considerable portion is made up of the daily subsistence he is deriving from his field. If hired labourers are employed I have with some precision ascertained from bramins, who farm in this way, that they derive a profit of one eighth in ordinary years but this is calculated on what they save by the produce of the field for family consumption.

By whatever tenure the cultivator holds his land his situation, by coming under our government, is greatly improved. There can be no question of advantage or disadvantage in the case of the ryot, the advantages are entirely on his side and the contrast between his former and present condition will be apparent from what I have stated without any summary of particulars.

The greatest inconvenience to which the ryots are now subjected is owing to the state of the coin, for although the order is to take the money as it comes and to receive whatever may be the fair butta upon it. Yet as the village silver-smith is the person who receives the money from the ryots, he is not sufficiently expert and does not know the proper rate and class of rupee, nor can the money when returned be distinguished. The difference of butta, therefore, falls upon the whole village, which certainly is a very great hardship, but in the present state of the coin I see no remedy for this and if any arrangements were tried, so that the government should bear the loss, it would be liable to very great imposition.

The ryot now readily admit that they have now very little to complain of, but the village officers are in general dissatisfied, and really believe they would rather forego the substantial advantage which secure enjoyment of person, situation and property holds out, then be prevented from exercising a sort of power which gave them at least a chance of acquiring an underhand emolument and perversion which shows the want of all proper principle and evinces in the strongest manner the debasing effects of a corrupt government upon an enlightened people.

No. 8. The draft of the Treaty given to the Raja to go through carefully and discuss it with the Resident. The Resident's advise regarding the Raja's family. The Treaty signed and sent to the Governor General. The proclamation to declare Pratapsing the Raja of Satara was sent forth. (From James Grant to M. Elphinstone)

30th September 1819

Sir,

I have now the honor to communicate my proceedings in compliance with your instructions of the 24th ultimo.

On my return to Satara on the 21st instant I waited on Raja the next morning and after some introductory conversation, I delivered the Marrata translation of the draft of the proposed Treaty, and requested His Highness would deliberate for a day or two up on the several articles. I likewise told His Highness that I should be ready to explain or to discuss any points that were not perfectly clear and satisfactory.

I saw the Raja daily on the 23rd, 24th and 25th and was several hours with him at each interview. Sometimes we were alone and sometimes several of his people were present. I explained and talked over every part of the Treaty and listened attentively to everything that was mentioned during the conversation.

The Raja was desirous of having it expressly mentioned in the Treaty that the Political Agent and his people should at no time interfere in regulating the interior of his family. I told the Raja that there was no occasion to specify this, that during the last year, when everything was exclusively conducted by the British Government, that there had been no interference, and that I could assure him there would never be anything of the kind further then to prevent any of His Highness's relations from entertaining improper followers, who might thus have access to His Highness, and be the means of creating displeasure of the British Government.

He said that this was very true and that although many of his people had started other objections, that he was confident that you had arranged what would, or ultimately would be, best suited to him. That he hoped, in the course of the twelve months, that he would have made sufficient progress to be entrusted with a large share of the government, and that notwithstanding what might be said by his own people, he was himself very anxious to conclude the Treaty and it be proclaimed at the Dussera.

As I was privately informed that some of the people of the Raja alluded to, were actually drawing up a variety of articles objecting to most parts of the draft that has been tendered, I thought it advisable to attend to the Raja's suggestions, and after he had mentioned

that he empowered Wittul Punt Furnaweese to conclude the Treaty the whole was settled, signed and sealed that very evening and I have now the honor to forward the treaty for transmission to the most noble the Governor General. The only alteration I have admitted in the draft, which accompanied my instructions, is that the Raja is to be allowed an equivalent for the amount of the customs collected in the ghauts of which, although not expressed, I know was not intended and, therefore, had little hesitation in allowing its insertion.

On the 26th the Raja told me that he was desirous of appointing Wittul Punt Furnaweese to act as his minister and that he would hereafter propose another person to be associated with him. The Raja at the same time proposed the Dussera for the day on which I was to attend to receive the seal under which all the orders are to be issued in his name, and he requested I would mention to you that the seal he affixed to the Treaty was not of his own but that of his father which he must use for the present, until a fortunate period for making a new one should be announced by astrologers.

Agreeable to the Raja's request I attended at His Highness' palace..Attended too in full Durbar.

The usual ceremony of the Dussera, which we endeavoured to make as splendid as possible, was gone through in the afternoon. A great concourse of people was assembled and seemed to take particular interest in what was going forward.

On returning from the ceremony I immediately sent circular order over the whole country announcing the conclusion of the Treaty and proclaiming the Raja.

In concert with His Highness I yesterday notified, under the authority of the seal in my custody, that all orders now in force which have been issued by the British Government throughout the territory are approved and confirmed.

I shall have the honor of reporting any further proceedings in forwarding your instructions in the course of a month or two by which time I hope to have made some progress in the arrangements contemplated.

No. 9. Customs and trade in the Raja's Dominions. (From James Grant to M. Elphinstone)

23rd January 1820

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo respecting the inland transit duties and desiring to know whether articles, having once paid the duties in the Concan, are entitled to a free transit through the newly acquired territories.

My inquiries regarding the imports on trade have been confined principally to what concerns the Raja's territory..

The duties on trade are in this country divided, as they are everywhere, also into imports, exports and transit, or lest these divisions should be bad one has to hold in mind too exact a similitude with other countries into Thul Mohr, Thul Bheerut and Ooba Marg. These terms do not apply to the boundary of any territory or province but to the limits of every Kusba or market town throughout the Dominions of the late Paishwa.

Each Kusba has some usage or privilege differing from the other, but in all of them, there are several specified rates for inhabitants of the Kusba, for inhabitants of the adjoining villages within the range of the Kusba, and for persons coming from other districts beyond the range of the Kusba, which last are termed Bechayetee. There are also persons known as Chaluka Kool who either pay at a certain rate per bullock load without increase or diminution, or pay a certain sum for exemption according to established custom of transit or Ooba Marg. There are four different classifications first: Bhul Mahal or payment at one place for a free passage through a pergunna, second, Khur Mahal or payment for transit through some part of the pergunna, third, transit duties payable by persons residing in villages within the range of the Kusba, and fourth, persons who after having imported commodities are again exporting others in exchange, in short every dealer has to pay the rates of every Kusba he may pass through or buy or sell in.

Merchandize is classed under a variety of heads but the principals of which I shall have occasion to take notice are kirana, bhossa and cloth.

Kirana includes all sorts of grocery, metal wares, all articles of Europe manufacture. Kirana is not always charged equally, it is some times sub-divided into two or more sorts on which defined customs are levied.

Bhoosa includes all sorts of grain and cloth, means all kinds of cotton manufacture in India. Independent of shawls, jewellery etc., which form a separate class termed Pashmeena. There are various articles on which a distinct import is levied.

The internal traffic of a Kusba is principally carried on in coarse cloth, grain, kumlies and some kirana of home produce. The export and import, at the average rate payable in the Kusba on cloth, is about $1/2$ a per cent on wholesale, but there is frequently a subsequent duty of 2 per cent levied on retail buyers. Kumlies pay rather more than cloth or about 9 annas per cent. Oil is charged at 2 per cent and ghee at $1\frac{1}{4}$ as the average rate of Thul Mohr and Thul Bhoosa. The principal commodity is however grain. The duties on it may be estimated at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to the inhabitants of the Kusba, at $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent to the inhabitants of the villages dependent on the Kusba and at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on Bichayetee or all persons from other districts.

In some places importers, who may be exporting in exchange, have an exemption of one half of the export duties.

With regard to exports and imports of the territory neither of them are at present very considerable.

The exports consist of small quantity of wheat, jawaree, bajaree, tobacco, red pepper and onions. These are principally exported from the villages adjoining the banks of the Kistna into the Concan.

The duties on the exports must be ascertained by a previous calculation of the interior Thul Mohr and Thul Bheerut which may be rated at 3 per cent. So that including the transit duty and the Thul Mohr in the Kusbas into which the export is conveyed the average may be reckoned at 5 percent, though this will obviously differ according to circumstances of distance and the rules of the particular Kusba under which the article is originally bought and sold as well as that into which it may be ultimately carried.

Cotton cloth imported into Punderpoor is thence frequently exported to Poona and in its progress to the dealer's shop in that city pays a duty of nearly $2\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

Although the articles contained in the list of imports be numerous, the trade is, at present, inconsiderable.

The principal mart within the territory is Punderpoor but for the last few years, owing to ravages of Pindarries and the subsequent war, the trade in cloths from the northwards has been completely interrupted, and although the road be now secure, there seems neither to be demand nor speculation. This trade was carried on principally by Gosains. They imported Bengal silk, muslin, jewellery, shawls, shelas, pugrees, doputtees etc, etc., from Boorhanpoor, Nagpoor and the neighbouring towns of Mungo Pytun. There were also importations from Nandhere, and Indoor Bodun in the Nizam's territory; the return for these was entirely in cash.

The import trade is now carried on is with the Carnatic, Bombay, Poona and the southern Concan and the immediate neighbourhood, Sholapur.

The merchants either manage the import themselves or employ a set of people termed Hoondakurrees. The poorer sort who has a small capital and who can subsist by quick returns, commonly employ their own agents, servants and cattle, and the greatest distance from whence they import is from the southern Concan. Those who have extensive dealings employ the Hoondakurrees who agree for the safe transportation of goods from one place to another, inclusive of customs, carriage, insurance and every charge except brokerage. They have agents established in the countries through which the goods are to pass and have either under contract with the farmers of customs or an agreement for a certain deduction. They of course take advantage of every thing, they evade the customs where they can, they contract for the Bharmahar and Khurmehar noticed in the explanation of Ooba Marg, they also often obtain passage for their loads as Chaleeka Kool, but the established drawback to which custom has entitled the Hoondakurree is twenty in hundred bullock loads.

The imports from the Carnatic consist of various cloths made in Pamur, Taxputer, Kurpa etc., and in the territory of the Raja of Gudwal.

On the cloth manufactured within the Company's Provinces 5 per cent is levied on the first purchase and its progress from the places above mentioned it passes through the part of the Nizam's territory, through Bidnaiks country enters the Company's territory near Halmulla in the Beejapur district, passes Chintamun Rao's district of Munzulivehra and is brought into the Raja's country at Casseegaon. By this route about twenty five different customs are levied which estimating each bullock load of that species of cloth at 350 rupees and taking the import duty at Punderpoor into calculation, the whole amounts to about $9\frac{1}{4}$ per cent before it is exposed for sale in the bazar of that place.

The imports from Bombay and Poona are principally Europe and China articles of trade confined to a few borhas. The articles imported are broad cloth, chintz, glassware, a small quantity of cutlery. Of late the demand for Europe chintz has increased very much, and it is generally preferred to that manufactured in the Carnatic, for although not so cheap it is reckoned better and more economical. The demand for other articles is at present trifling. The duties are levied indiscriminately on the bullock load, which may be estimated at the average rate of 700 Rs. and the percentage from Bombay, not including any duty there, is nearly 2 percent.

From Sholapoor the imports are cloth and grain but at present they are confined to cloth — estimating the bullock load at Rs. 350 the amount of customs to the inhabitants of Punderpoor is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. There is also some times Kirana imported from the Sholapoor when articles happen to be particularly high priced in the Concan. An importer bringing down Kirana from Sholapoor to Kurar has to pay at the average rate of 8 per cent.

But the principal trade is with the southern Concan. Rice and Kirana of all sorts are imported. Bhossa pay at the average rate of 10 per cent. Kirana about 5 per cent. There is, however, greater variation and there is scarce one Kusba that has not some particular quol at the various places of supply hence it is at first difficult to rely on the information obtained from the dealers in different Kusbas but in general all kinds of Kirana pay equally per bullock load, which makes the duty very heavy on the cheaper articles where the Kirana is classed into superior of

inferior. A heavier duty is levied on the superior article but it still does not amount to half so much per cent as the inferior sort. Where this is the case, as the dealers have no passports, the collectors of customs have no means of ascertaining the proper rate to levy as transit duty except by the weight and by the smell.

On a general principle the consolidation of customs at a fair aggregate rate would no doubt in the course of a year or two be productive of a much larger revenue, and like all such things, when fixed steady, it must operate beneficially whenever trade is understood, as it makes the dealer's previous calculations of his profit so much more certain. But there is at present no speculation or sagacity among the merchants of this country. What with quols and privileges, and draw-backs, the duties, as now levied, appear to be more vexatious than burdensome. The people, long habituated to this mode of collection, are not by any means dissatisfied, and it is in fact exactly suited to the genius of a banian, he generally evades paying a part of the customs and has much greater chance of defrauding than of being imposed upon. A Maratta wancee wrangling with a collector of customs is a favorite subject of their plays and his delight and exaltation at having escaped paying a price is justly represented as being much greater than on concluding an advantageous bargain..

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No. 10. Orders issued by His Highness the Raja respecting revenue administration of his Dominions. (True translation under the seal and signature of James Grant, Resident).

30th April 1820

Revenue Regulations

Until Government shall be enabled to collect the revenue by correct measurement and assessment the following rules, principally relating to revenue arrangements, are published for general information and all concerned are required to conform thereto with attention and punctuality. Such rule as depend on prices current or any other uncertainty will of course be amended according to circumstances. These orders are issued merely as additional to those published on the 10th November 1819 ..

Which when not countermanded are always to be considered standing regulations, but to prevent all mistakes an annual Hookm-namee will be sent from the Hoozoor from which all obsolete rules will be expunged.

The orders now in force, which were issued by the British Government for the guidance of shaikdars and mamlatdars, are to be continued. A shaikdar when appointed to his charge must be furnished with a correct list of villages, their revenue, present state, quols that have to run etc., etc, and in addition to all this written statement he must be instructed by the mamlatdar in regard to the character of the different patells and what village officers are to be most depended upon in the tract under his charge.

When the season of cultivation commences the shaikdar will visit every village and by attention to the existing orders he will give every encouragement to cultivation, carefully informing the mamlatdar of all his proceedings and sending him monthly accounts of the progress of cultivation and crops from which the mamlatdar will form an abstract of all such information for monthly transmission to the Hoozoor.

Every shaikdar will be allowed two sebundies, who have been accustomed to such duty, for the purpose of accompanying him to the villages and obtain information. Respecting the state of cultivation the shaikdar must be constantly moving about. The large villages may require two days and the smaller ones one day, but he must be unremitting and vigilant in his inquiries and exertions and not stop longer than the prescribed period at each place without some particular reasons which are to be stated to the mamlatdar.

The shaikdar must be particularly watchful to prevent the patells from levying any unauthorised exactions on any pretence and to prevent their giving good lands at inferior rates on pretended quols for which they are always bribed by cultivators, or from appropriating lands in any way to their own use or that of their friends or relations.

With a view to forming an exact estimate of the mohooturfa, shaikdars will estimate the number of houses, shops of banians and trades people and by whatever means all other people, not cultivators, residing within their range subsist.

When money for tuggae is issued on account of any cultivator the shaikdar must be careful to see that the whole amount be paid to the ryot but that he actually lay out on the stock for which it has been advanced whether seeds, bullocks or implements of husbandry etc.

The mamlatdars will be careful to send in all the accounts of the cultivation required. To visit every village four times every season and to inform themselves most particularly of everything relative to each that they may be prepared to afford every information to such collector as may be authorised by government to conclude the general assessment. They must also furnish the sirsoobedar with whatever information he may call forth and to attend to all such suggestions as he may give.

The duty of the sirsoobedar is to take care that the mamlatdar perform their duty and punctually attend to the orders that are issued. The kucheree of each mamlatdar must be constantly inspected by the sirsoobedars and all persons unfit for their situation or negligent in their duties must be reported to the Huzoor and eventually removed.

The authorized revenue in His Highness the Raja's territory is collected under two general heads viz., the land revenue and the extra revenue.

Pasturage and gross land customs, intoxicating drugs and spirits, ghee kenna, Dawar mahal and various other items which have been usually granted in contract form exceptions to these two general classification and when such are not fixed in the Hoozoor, particular reference must always be made by the local authorities, in order to obtain orders respecting them.

The divisions of land revenue into Sirdeshmooke, Hoozoor mamala, Jeelhe, Mokassa, Sahotra. Kussur, Panchootra, etc., only require, for particular attention in villages where various claims exist, in such cases, when the Government has the smaller claims, the mamlatdar will realize the amount according to the proportion which has always been paid in the village, either from the amildar or from the villagers as has been customary, but where the management of Domallay villages, are in the hands of the government, the mamlatdar will permit no separate collections by individuals as the Umuldars will be paid from the Huzoor

treasury. Mamlatdars must be careful to state the amount collected and to which each claimant is entitled. In this he will be regulated entirely by what has long been customary in that village on which the Umuldars' claim may exist.

The land revenue is realized from five different heads viz.

1. Patustil
2. Motustil
3. Jerait
4. Sheree
5. Dharacha Ghulla

The extra revenue is classed under six separate heads viz.

1. Nuklabab in which are included jumma, Wanchuraee, Mukhshee etc.
2. Enam Tigae
3. Mahooturfa
4. Sadilwarid
5. Patachepance
6. Salabudputtee

The land at present will be assessed according to the quantity in cultivation and the extra revenue, as above specified, by what has been established as fair and equitable.

The mode of settling the revenue will continue the same as practised this year, that is, Government by previous accounts obtained by a watchful superintendence on the part of the local officers, and a fair estimate of the cultivation and crop will make a general assessment on each division, and the patells assisted by the shaikdars and zumeendars, and by their own local knowledge of the state of each others villages will proportion the assessment to the actual state of things, so that such villages may bear an equal and just share of the government dues. When this has been duly fixed, government will grant each patell a putta and receive a coableeat in return, and that no individual may have to contribute more than he is bound to do by the invariable custom which has prevailed in this country in the best times of its Government. There will be a Koolaring or final division of the village assessment on each ryot apportioned to his rightful share of the

general assessment on his village. This Koolwar settlement will be made by each mamlatdar in the most careful manner and puttās and mochulkas will be exchanged between the ryot and the patell in the same mode as between the sirkar and the patell. But on the putta of each of the ryot the seal of the Government will be affixed, for which purpose every putta must be carefully transmitted by mamlatdars to the Hoozoor, when afterwards it will be returned to the mamlatdar for transmission to the ryot to whom it belongs.

In the putta of each village due deduction will be made for all ordinary allowances of huq, sadilwar and domalla, but they will be carefully and distinctly specified. Whatever proportion each ryot pays of sadilwar, domalla, huqdar dues the same to be enumerated in his putta.

The government having in this manner carefully made the assessment at the lowest rates possible, the utmost exactness and punctuality will be required in the payment of the instalements which are to be fixed as, heretofore customary in the country. The villagers must always give security for each other and where individuals may not be able to pay up government dues the amount must be made good by a proportional distribution on the village, in the same way when village cannot make good the payments the whole district or mahal becomes responsible.

A want of punctuality on the part of the patell in paying the instalement will subject him to a fine according to the circumstances. Secreting land or fraudulent collusion in any way renders the wutun of a village officer liable to sequestration and double the amount of whatever loss government may sustain by any fraud will, always on detection, be exacted from the parties concerned. The villages officers will pass their receipts to the ryots and will always receive receipts from the mamlatdars for different instalements. In all these the particular coins in which each payment is made will be duly specified and the mamlatdar must always be careful to transmit the exact sum of rupees to the Huzoor. When copper is collected it is to be exchanged for silver at the price current in the Kusba, previous to its transmission to Satara.

The principal sowkars and shroffs and shopkeepers in Satara settled the fair exchange on the various kinds of rupees on the

17th April 1820...as follows. And until circumstances shall render some alteration necessary, these rates are to be observed throughout His Highness the Raja's territories in all transactions between the Government and its subjects.

Rupees known by the name of Khora
Mulkhora
and Neyrmul Chappee

are to pass current without any discount. Rupees of the above kind, slightly marked, cracked or dented and known by the names of Kantpoolka and Bulpoolka are to have no difference of exchange levied upon them and are likewise to pass current without any discount.

Madhun Chappee rupees are to pass at a discount of one pice per rupee.

Nurmal Chappee rupees at two pice discount per rupee.

Phoolka or coins of above description much defaced or deteriorated are not to be received in payment of revenue. The usual rate at which these pass in the bazar is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

No extra payments and puttees whatever are to be required from the rayat above what may be set forth in his patta. Should demand at any time be made on the cultivator for contributions on account of Dhurmadao Khurch, Seeda Khurch and Kerkool Khurch the sirkar will certainly make a severe example of any one who shall thus oppress the ryot by such unauthorised exactions. Every ryot is of course uncontrolled in his domestic expenses and for any religious or charitable purpose or any amusement, he is at liberty to follow his own inclination in defraying the expence and any indulgence that has been usually granted by Government in this way will also be allowed if really customary and reasonable, but authority in such cases must be obtained from the Huzoor.

In cases where the revenue is paid in kind the [mamlatdar is to ascertain the estimated value of the produce of the field on the spot and to fix the Government share at a fair average quantity; after which nothing additional must be taken for any surplus produce above the proportion by which the estimate was made. This advantage falls entirely to the share of the ryot

Mamlatdars, patells, shaikhdars and all persons whatsoever, subject to His Highness's authority are particularly warned to be most attentive to the orders which have been issued in regard to the furnishing of supplies and assistanse to all parties of troops belonging to the British Government, who may be passing through or stationed within His Highness's territory, and all European gentlemen travelling are always to be treated with most particulars respect and attention. The adequate price fixed from time to time by the British Political Agent, agreeable to the prices current in the country will always be paid but in any instance such payment is neglected the demand is to be made from the parties in a respectful manner, not through servants but to the gentleman himself. When, payment from any misapprehension be refused, a regular complaint is to be drawn up by the kulkurnee and forwarded to the Huzoor when it will be either transmitted to the British Government and the amount recovered for the village or person who may have furnished the supplies or an adequate deduction will be given by the Sirkar at the time of making the revenue settlement ensuing, but no excuse will ever be admitted for any failure in furnishing the supplies required and disrespect towards any European gentleman will always be severely punished.

Beegaries are forbidden, but as circumstances frequently occur which may oblige European travellers to apply to the patel for assistance in carrying baggage, he must furnish what is required, and in case the customary hire is not paid a representation is to be made in the same manner as in the case of non payment for supplies and redress will be obtained in a similar manner, but on this head all persons are particularly warned to state facts in the most correct way, there must be no false accusations and no exaggeration. Just complaints are set aside merely because foolish people are apt to exaggerate, these matters are always shifted to the bottom in the Company's Sirkar where truth and justice are always attended to, but false accusation bring shame and punishment on the heads of wrongful complaintants.

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No. 11. Secret reports on the Raja's intrigues with the Court of Hyderabad. Intrigues with members of the Bhosle family in other parts of the country. The Raja was warned mildly by the Resident. (From Jameas Grant)

Satara, May 1820

Secret enclosure to Report (No. 3) of 25th May 1820.

The circumstances to which my report alludes are of a nature which render it proper that I should make you acquainted with them. With regard to the first I shall mention I am in my own mind persuaded the Raja is in no way concerned. I have not equal confidence in some of his servants but I am not yet sufficiently satisfied of the fact to make it subject either of warning or accusation as without well grounded suspicion, I think, entering on such matters may create a mutual and unfounded distrust not easily eradicated.

It is said that there has been a message brought from Hyderabad by a deshpany of Indapoor named Mahdoo Rao. The purport of this message was merely to recall to mind former friendships that had subsisted between the Rajas of Satara and Soubehs of the Deccan, and that a renewal of such friendship would be very desirable. To this it is added a favorable answer was returned by the chitnees through whom the message was delivered.

The person who gave me this information is Cassee Punt Bundary, the brahmin who has charge of the Rajah from the time of the administration of Trimbackji Dainglia, and who, like Trimbackji's selections in general is remarkable for his vigor, activity and intriguing disposition.

The other circumstance was one in which there was probably covert design on the Raja's part, but originating with his relations here, some of whom, the excitors of Satara insurrection, and the adherents of the real Chitoor Sing, being men who have all their lives being actively engaged in intrigues in various parts of India, it was sufficient to give warning of the insidious nature of a proposal made to me by the Raja for him to have cognizance of the affairs of his own immediate caste (the Bhouslays) in regard to their marriages etc., etc., all over the country.

This was made personally and I did not fail to notice it in the most marked terms of reprehension. I plainly told the Raja that if ever I again heard of such a proposal, that I should require the name of the person with whom it had originated to be mentioned that I must insist upon his being banished from Satara forever.

And that such an attempt on the part of His Highness, if represented to the British Government, might subject him to the loss of the benefits as has acquired by the Treaty. I, likewise, represented to him the advantage of his having thus, in the first instance, mentioned the circumstances, as I thus felt assured that he himself considered it of an innocent nature, whereas, if the smallest attempt of the kind had been made clandestinely, that I should have been under the necessity of representing it as a direct infringement of the obligations by which he was bound to abide.

The Raja with a sincerity, there is no mistaking, assured me that he had, not foreseen anything of the nature I had mentioned, that if he had he would have been as ready as I could be to deprecate any proceedings which could occasion a shadow of displeasure of the British Government.

I, however, took opportunity which this afforded of repeating and impressing upon him the immediate danger that would be incurred by holding the most distant intercourse with foreign powers, it was just signing the order of sequestration for his own territory.

All this, though said seriously, was communicated with a friendly tone and manner..I think a plain direct threat with soundness and candour ought for the most part to be used, especially if it be foreseen that it may ultimately prove necessary for greater deference rather encourages perseverance in what is wrong than ensures a corresponding politeness by the relinquishment of what is simply disapproved.

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No. 12. Settlement between the Raja and the Jagirdars regarding the maintenance of the Rissala (horse). The behaviour of the Raja of Akalkot and a history of his kingdom. A reference to the rights of the Pratinidhi and Pant Sachiv , and the conditions prevailing in their kingdom. (From James Grant to W. Chaplin).

1st September 1820

Sir,

The Raja continued attentive to the public business and the detail continues to be carried on in the same manner as reported in my letter of 26th May.

A report of the manner of raising two hundred horse and the settlement for the remaining Jageerdars require to be laid before you. With regard to the former, circular letters were sent to the most conspicuous silladars for whom no provision has been made by our own government and one, two or more horses were entertained so as to afford as much assistance to the families of this class of people, as the extent of the establishment affords, as vacancies occur or as the Raja's funds can afford it. I shall duly attend to the spirit of my instructions on this head.

I now beg to enclose copies of the terms fixed by me, and of the Raja's agreement upon these terms with the Prithee Nidhee, the Raja of Akulcote and Shaik Mira Waeekur, as these are similar to the agreements with the other jageerdars it appears unnecessary to forward the English translations.

The Raja of Akulcote having raised objections to my having recognised his jageer as an enam and having shown you a Rajput declaring that his possessions have been recognised as such since the date of that paper, it becomes my duty to expose this deceitful pretension.

You are no doubt aware of the manner in which his ancestors of the Akulcotekur was thrown upon the protection of Shao Raja and of his having extended that protection in the most solemn manner by calling him his son, and granting him very large jageer possessions.

Shao it is said had intended to make over these possessions in enam and had made out the enam papers, but whether he had changed his intentions, or that the paper was a forgery of the needy chitnees is uncertain, however, the enam was never recognised, and of course became like hundreds issued by Raja Ram perfectly useless.

Previous to Raja Shao's death, when he had made over the whole power to Ballajee Bajee Rao he had at that time begged of Nana Saheb to continue his protege Futteh Sing Bhonslay in his jageer which Nana Saheb solemnly promised and attended to.

Futteh Sing died without an issue but he had a nephew Shahjee Bhonsla whom he had frequently spoken of as his son and Shahjee Bhonsla preformed the funeral obsequies though he was not formerly adopted. The Peshwa however issued orders of

sequestration which were carried into effect by Babjee Naik Joshee of Baramittee who took possession of the whole of the districts in the name of the Government.

The case of Shahjee Bhonsla was afterwards favourably represented by Babjee Naik Joshee with whom Shahjee came to Poona and the Peshwa at last agreed to restore a part of the jageer which, however, was burdened with the maintenance of an unusual proportion of horse, amounting to eight or nine hundred, and the number continued to be kept up until, on the occasion of some small reduction in the jageer, Nana Furnawees in consideration of a large bribe got the Tuneel Zabila settled at five hundred.

I have seen a copy of the sunnud in which these terms are fixed and jageer is expressly mentioned. It is dated in the Arabic year 1181 and a copy may probably be discovered in the Poona Daftar. I could not prevail upon my informant, the son of Cassee Punt Gargul, to allow me to take a copy of the sunnud in question as he was fearful of the enmity of the Raja of Akulcote.

I have likewise read various sunnuds connected with Akulcote in which it is invariably mentioned as jageer by Narrain Rao Rajonath Rao and Mahadeo Rao successively. In short Akulcote was at no period recognised as enam by any authority whatever up to the breaking out of the war in 1817.

The Enam putte you have seen came into Akulcote's possession about eight years ago, previous to that time he did not know that such a document existed. It was procured from Mulhar Rao the Raja's chitnes to whom a few begas of land were given upon the occasion.

The rights of the Prithee Nidhee and Punt Suchew have been defined in their agreement. They were similar to that of other jageerdars but the Prithee Nidhee was rightfully the most independent of any authority subordinate to the Mookh Purdhan. After the last rebellion of the Prithee Nidhee his affairs were entirely managed by Gockla and it is now necessary for us to superintend the conduct of the minister he has chosen (Tattya Joshee) otherwise as the Punt is discontented, the minister infirm, and Luximee Bye surrounded by a set of needy, avaricious and intriguing carcoons, they would soon produce such disorders by

oppressing the ryots, neglecting the police and quarrelling among themselves that we should be obliged to take the entire management if the apprehension of being overlooked did not operate as some check on all parties, even as it is, there seldom a day passes without a reference or a complaint respecting some affairs of the Prithee Nidhee. His admitted debts are probably greater than all his present jageer could ever pay, and the most that can be attempted is that of endeavouring to compromise those that have been contracted within the period in which Luximee Bye's carcoons conducted the Punt's affairs.

I need not dwell upon the endless complaints that such a state of things gives rise to, it is irremediable and the only rule to be observed is the homely one of "to do that we can."

The Punt Suchew's affairs are nearly as bad and he is intriguing, mischievous and worthless. I shall of course be careful to prevent the Raja of Satara from encroaching on his rights but as agent of the British Government it will be absolutely necessary to oblige the Punt to punish convicted criminals within his own districts. Otherwise if any of his subjects will seek the highway or plunder the villages of ryots more industrious will be assured of pardon if they will place a portion of their gains as an offering to their master.

The police continues tolerably efficient but the events that have occurred, since the date of my last report, are a proof of the existence of the restless marauding spirit to which I then adverted.

Of the cause which may have prompted some of the leaders to endeavour to raise an insurrection there is yet no satisfactory account. But should the result of enquiries now in progress lead to any discovery of their having been acting under the influence of more conspicuous persons, as some of the prisoners assert, it shall be duly reported to you. But whatever may have been influencing the leading people, the inhabitants are induced to join in such disturbances with the view of procuring subsistence.

The population in the mooras and khoras is redundant, the means of subsistence cannot be raised from their native fields, and I apprehend it would be a measure of great difficulty, if not altogether impracticable, to draw of a part of them to the

eastward. At all events it would take many seasons, and what we immediately require to apply is present amelioration of their condition.

A ready and useful means of doing so occurs by employing them to open the ghauts and construct the road from the Chiploon from the Koombarlie Ghaut, but there must be some care taken in the selection of an officer for the duty. Although, they would be thankful for the means of obtaining a livelihood, yet if they are at first roughly treated they will abandon their work. They should be paid daily and allowed to attend or not in the following day as they please.

Lieutenant Thomas Jervis is I believe the superintending Engineer in the Southern Concan and in case he could be spared from his duties at Savendroog he is remarkably qualified for an employment of the kind.

A great number of these people from the hills and khoras in the neighbourhood are employed in the roads and building which the Raja is carrying on, but a good high road from the coast would be a lasting benefit both to the Southern Concan and to this territory.

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No. 13. Approving of Captain James Grant's administration of the Raja's dominions (From Francis Warden, Chief Secretary, Bombay, to W. Chaplin).

25th June 1821

Sir,

The Honorable the Governor in Council highly approve of the zeal, judgment and ability displayed by Captain Grant in his conduct of the Raja's Government.

The regulations for the Huzoor servants of the Satara durbar, appear as far as a judgement can be formed at a distance from the spot to which they apply, to be calculated as far as practicable to combine the mode of Government familiar to natives, with the essential improvements peculiar to the British Administration.

Framed as they have been under the direction of Captain Grant, and subjected to your revision the Governor in Council has no hesitation in affording them his fullest confirmation.

You will no doubt give full attention to the question of the extent to which the survey assessment should be introduced in the Raja's territory; and the degree to which it will accord with His Highness's probable plan of future Government.

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No. 14. Satisfactory management of the Raja's dominions by Captain Grant, Improvement in the amount of revenue with expectations of an increase in the coming year, William Chaplin rather doubtful of such a rapid improvement. Perverse influence of the Raja's native advisers likely to retard progress in Satara administration. There should be a very slow transfer of power into the Raja's hands. Chaplin has no faith in the Raja's ability to govern. Even Captain Grant was not very happy at the thought of handing over the reins of authority to the Raja. Yet such a transfer was necessary and was to be finally effected. (From W. Chaplin to Francis Warden, enclosure with letter No. 13).

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit copy of Captain Grant's report.

In the settlements of the districts the Political Agent has adopted the ryotwar system of management and the care and attention he has bestowed in investigating the resources of the country are fully evinced in the improved state of the revenue which exceeds that preceding year by a lack and eighty thousand rupees, The causes of this increase are fully shown by Captain Grant not to proceed from any increased burthen upon the ryots but from the discovery of concealed sources of produce, which escaped former enquiries, with the addition of the territory lately assigned under the terms of the treaty from Beejapoor, and the restoration of the equivalent of some transfers made to the Putwurdhan family; the Raja's net receipts for the fuslee which has expired will fall little short of fifteen lacs of rupees. In addition to this income Captain Grant estimates, within the next five years, an increase of a lac of rupees from extended cultivation without reckoning the resumption of fraudulent alienation, reversion of jageers or any eventual resources of that description—calculations of this nature are apt to prove fallacious. I am disposed, however, to think that the period during which the country has been under our administration has been too short to admit of

a complete development of its present capabilities. Under the former loose management of the farming system a considerable portions of the collections must have been appropriated by the contractors and it may be presumed that the revenue which actually reached the treasury was much below what was actually realised. The Paishwa's receipts therefore do not constitute a criterion by which to judge of what the country will yield under a more efficient system of management..Taking this view of the subject, I am of opinion, that the direct revenue to be placed at the Raja's disposal might under tolerable government eventually approximate to the maximum contemplated to be given to him—which in the despatch No. 78, the Honorable the late Commissioner to the Governor General was, stated at Rs. 18,00,000.. After the country shall have been transferred entirely to the Raja's authority—if the revenue does not then fall off the most we can expect is that it will remain stationary. The probability is that under a Mahratta Chief of little education and less experience, with few or no capable ministers to guide him the state of affairs must sooner or later become deteriorated.

This consideration naturally leads to the discussion often referred to me in Mr. Secretary Henderson's letter of the 1st May, how soon His Highness should be relieved from all direct interference on the part of our officers. His independence under the conditions of Treaty is ultimately pledged to him, and the degree of latitude which may be taken in the construction of this indefinite term is the chief point to be decided. The secondary consideration will be whether the transfer shall be made at once or whether it shall be gradual.

The Political Agent proposes that the Raja's authority shall be increased only by slow degrees on the ground of the perverse influence with which he is surrounded. This and other arguments which I have adduced in support of the policy of preserving the control in our own hands are not, I think, to be invalidated. Indeed, it will be admitted readily on all hands that the longer the evil day can be postponed the better, provided it can be done in consistency with the treaty which has been by ourselves dictated to him. I am no less, however, of opinion that while we do retain our control we should keep it unimpaired...The expression in the treaty as to the time of ultimate transfer is sufficiently broad and

general to enable us to reserve the substantive power of the State in our own possession... The dispensation of civil and criminal justice, which is first of all to be confided to His Highness's superintendence, may if well conducted furnish good lessons for the Raja's education, and if we might rationally entertain the hope that at the mature age of 25 years he would under this system of training attain to proficiency in the art of government, it would be very consolatory. I have, however, no such expectations, for whatever may be his disposition and capacity, it would I think be chimerical to look to many salutary consequences from entrusting to a Maratha youth unaccustomed to business, who has been all his life a prisoner, an office which will give him much personal trouble, and indirectly even little or no personal influence. I should rather apprehend that with such brief authority and such imperfect attainments justice will be ill attended to and worse administered. Tacitus observes that Claudius having invested himself with the functions of a magistrate, the decision of lawsuits gave occasion to all manner of extortion and history is full of examples of rapine and oppression which have resulted from Princes personally sitting as judge. The occurrences of these abuses is still more probable, if I may be permitted to compare great things with small under inexperienced Mahratta Rajah surrounded by needy and hungry independents, who will seek and sell his favors to the highest bidder. Captain Grant's report of the Raja's proceedings in the administration of justice, however favourable does not diminish these apprehensions. Anticipating the future developments, of the Raja's capacity to govern, a distant period, I fear, be fixed upon. That which is proposed by Captain Grant for delivering over to him the revenue superintendence is even earlier perhaps than ought to be contemplated. In giving over the revenue we must recollect that we resign the control of the treasury which Captain Grant separately reserves for the last act of emancipation... the payment and management of troops are also intimately connected with the application of the resources of the Raja's exchequer... all these departments seem to me to constitute links of the same chain, the disjoining of which would probably be found too speculative for execution without occasioning numberless practical inconveniences.

On the whole my views of the expediency of retaining the powers of government does not essentially differ from Captain

Grants..The revenue, treasury and police ought of course to be retained to the last ..The Raja after the transfer will continue to be subject of course to the general control and superintendence of the Political Agent whose remonstrances, under the terms of the treaty must always have a powerful effect in preventing disorders.. If an able and responsible minister could be met with, I think, the emancipation might take place without delay...

It behoves us to be cautious at the same time not to fall into the opposite error of keeping the Raja too long in leading strings lest we defeat the object of establishing a separate government by which it was hoped that the Mahratta people would, from national feeling, be reconciled to the dissolution of the late dynasty...If he be kept in a state of pupilage, he will naturally be led to compare his situation with that of the many independent jageerdars who surround him. A comparison that will give a rise to discontent, and will have a tendency to obliterate any sentiment of regard or gratitude which he may have conceived towards the British Government for gratuitously restoring him from his former abject nothingness to the musnud of his ancestors. By long protracting the transfer we shall incur the risk too of having it imputed to us that we have set up a mere man of straw, *ad captandum vulgus*, to serve our own purpose.

The local arrangements adopted by the Political Agent do not suggest to me any specific observations. They appear to be judicious and likely to answer the ends for which they have been intituted. The same remarks apply to the revenue orders issued in the name of the Raja..

The police...appear to be tolerably efficient. The unsettled state of the district belonging to the Nizam's frontier will often be the cause of the prevalence of crimes in that vicinity, and the want of management on the part of the jageerdars will have the same effect. The Political Agent seems not to have been inattentive to the means of eradicating these evils..

The settlement made with the subordinate jageerdars are conformable to those of the Chiefs similarly situated in our own immediate territory.

The effects of the Political Agent's praiseworthy exertions to suppress the practice of widows burning themselves on the funeral

piles...exhibits a proof that the exercise of influence judiciously and delicately applied and unaccompanied by any demonstration of authority may be attended with signal success in checking this barbarous custom of self immolation.

The mode in which the Raja's military establishment is managed is equally creditable to Captain Grant's...judgement will I have no doubt be approved by the Honorable the Governor in Council.

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No. 15. Desire to know the position of the Political Agent in the new set up when the Raja takes over the government of Satara. What the Raja should do to the tried and old servants of the State. What should be the extent of the Raja's power over the jagirdars, if any, are conceded. The question of the Raja's military strength was to be still decided, and several other questions of a similar nature. A change in the nature of the duties of the Political Agent were necessary. Statements of revenue management under the British Government. (From James Grant to W. Chaplain.)

7th February 1822

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the quarterly statements of receipts and disbursement of the Raja's Government up to the 31st December 1821,

The death of the Ranee obliged the Raja to return to Satara when it was necessary he should be married before proceeding to Tooljapoor.

Previous to quitting his own boundary the jageerdars with the exception of the Prithee Nidhee and Rangoo Bye Daflay joined the Raja in the neighbourhood of Punderpoor and continued until he returned in his own district, when they were further detained on the banks of the Beema by the death of His Highness' mother until the 14th ultimo when they were permitted to return and the Raja reached Beejapoor on the 19th. The followers of the jageerdars, with some precaution in selecting a few of each as safeguards, conducted themselves with great regularity.

In regard to the revenue settlement of the present year I shall have the honor of submitting an account after it has been completed.

The police I am happy to state continues efficient although there has been a very great stir amongst Ramoosees which still continues.

The Punt Sachew has particularly behaved well in apprehending forty eight of a gang who were committing robberies in the Concan.. As the Punt is anxious that they should be tried by the Raja's Government and seems apprehensive of the consequences of punishing them himself, I have complied with his request and shall see that they are tried and sentenced before giving over charge to the Raja.

As the 5th of April is ascertained to be a fortunate day, and no other equally auspicious will occur during the month, the Raja is desirous of having the seal and sicca made over to him on that date at the hour of 8 o'clock A. M.

As it is fit I should receive particular instruction on that occasion as much for future conservance as immediate guidance, it may be useful to mention a few particulars rather, however, as suggesting considerations on some points of detail less likely to occur to one not on the spot than offering them as digested opinions.

Referring to the treaty, particularly the second article, when the internal administration is given over to the Raja in case his views may differ from those of the Political Agent to interfere with the Raja's arrangement in anyway or should that article be understood to refer exclusively, to His Highness' foreign relations and intercourse with the Jageerdars, or shall the Political Agent be directed never to intrude his advice unless there appears to be gross mismanagement or injustice; in which case shall he be permitted to exercise our right of interference, maintained by the article alluded to, without obtaining previous sanction of the Commissioner or government. These are points which may be easily answered, but considering the disposition of the individual, and not to deprive the Raja of the benefit which he will be anxious to derive from our advice, the Political Agent should under any view of the question be directed to give him his best counsel when he may apply for it, taking care to apprise the Raja that any measure attaching odium to the government, however salutary in itself, should not wilfully be thrown upon the British authority, at the same time, the Political Agents might afford a becoming support such as would insure proper respect to the Raja's orders.

In conformity with the intentions of the Government in regard to the mamlatdars who for a course of years may meritoriously perform the duties of those situation, I long since suggested to the Raja the propriety of granting them enam lands after twenty years service to the value of from one to three hundred Rupees annually, in the districts where they may have served. . This, however, will require us to decide upon the extent to which it may be advisable to permit the Raja to grant such alienation. There is no chance of the present Raja ever injuring his revenue by gifts of this description, especially to brahmins, towards whom he entertains a strong jealousy and in some respects an excessive prejudice.

In regard to the jageerdars should the Raja be allowed to have control over them, so as to manage their affairs in exact conformity with the agreements laid down, we interfere only when the agreements are infringed, or shall the Raja, in case where the jageerdars may deviate from what is directed, have the power of punishing them by fine or sequestration without consulting the British authority and if so to what extent? Should the Raja be permitted to place a news writer at the residence of his jageerdar or not?

Several silladars holding lands in the Raja's territory such as the Bhosays, Baburs etc., might be ordered to perform services it does not seem politic to allow the Raja to call upon them but I think he will be anxious to do so. I have not yet given His Highness the list of jageerdars which are to revert to his government conceiving it would be more advisable to keep back that information to the latest period.

The number of His Highness's military, exclusive of Jageerdars, are as follows :

	Horse	Foot
Moghlay Ressala, late		
Captain Spillers	500	
Sillidars	200	
Pagah	100	
Sibundies		3,000
Ghurkuree		600
	800	3,600

To this number it will be proper to authorize an increase of three hundred sibundies to be enlisted by himself and six Golundauze he now has may be increased to twenty five.

The party of sillidars in the Raja's service, entertained from the military families in the adjoining country, are remarkably fine men and although they have only thirty rupees per month they are in general well mounted. There are not, however, so efficient as the Moghlay Ressala, although much less troublesome.

With respect to Ressala I have already reported the terms on which they are transferred. Their pay of Rs. 36 to each was guaranteed by us during good behaviour.

My recommending three hundred additional sibundies of the Raja's own raising is on account of the number of chowkies required about the ghauts and for which a particular cast (the mawulees) are alone of any service for five months in the year.

In regard to the Raja's quitting Satara for any part within his own territory what restrictions will it be proper to impose. It is necessary he should obtain the sanction of the Political Agent or merely acquaint him with his intention. Should any regular troops accompany him or not ?

There are several subjects of the British Government or of other States residing within the Raja's territory, should such persons be still prohibited from visiting His Highness without express permission from the Political Agent and in cases where persons or agents of persons beyond the Raja's territory have causes or complaints to be laid before the Raja's Court, shall they be obliged to come to in the first instance to the Political Agent. The answer to this in regard to the Raja of Satara seems to be obvious perhaps for troubling you or placing it on record, but in regard to the causes, as undue support might very unintentionally be granted by the Political Agent, in consequence of the ex parte statement, which without superintending the enquiry or trial he must hear, I would beg to suggest that particular caution be enjoined on this head, and it may be useful to add, that in any case of domestic complaint against the Raja or his government, it should on public grounds, seldom be noticed, and when necessary it should, in the first instance, be mentioned to the Raja himself frankly but privately. In this way more attention will be paid to it than by any other.

A Statement Showing at one view the Increase of Revenue of the Territory of His Highness the Raja of Satara during the four years it has been superintended by the British Authorities

	Total Revennue	Remitted or probable amount of Remissions	Outstandings	Amount increase of Revenue	Annual Amount of increased Receipt into the Treasury	Recoverable
For the fuslee year 1228	13,79,618.1.87½	24,027.1.12½	..	..	..	..
For the fuslee year 1229A.D.	13,15,559.1.74¾					
Beejapoor	18 705.2.93½					
Annual increase of revenue	1,31,731.1.56½					
Amount	15,96,028.1.25					
Deduct Fultun	73,564.1.75					
Total for the year 1229	15,22,463.3.50	11,160.0.0	8,329.3.43¾	1,31,731.1.56½	1,23,401.2.12¾	8,329.3.43¾
For the fuslee year 1230	15,82,588.3.62½	4,380.0.0	5,731.2.71¾	60,125.0.12½	54,393.1.40¾	5,731.2.71¾
For the fuslee year 1231	16,43,547.0.15¾	24,500.0.0	7,45,094.0.39¾	60,958.0.53¼	30,916.0.12½	7,45,094.3.90¾
	Total increase			2,52,814.2.22¼	0.0.06	

Satara 3rd, April, 1822

Sd/ James Grants,
Pol. Agent.

Revenue Settlement for the fuslee year 1231. Showing the General Assessment the amount of Collection and outstanding Balances upto the 31 March 1822 of the Territory of His Highness the Raja of Satara

Name of the Districts		Jumma Bunde of General Assessment for fuslee 1231 including all customs	Collected up to 31st March 1822	Outstanding Balance on the 31st March 1822
1.	District of Satara	..	58,043.0.31 $\frac{1}{4}$	48,170.1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
2.	" Jawlie	..	30,917.0.56 $\frac{1}{4}$	18,600.3.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
3.	" Tasgaon	..	56,483.0.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	57,007.1.68 $\frac{3}{4}$
4.	" Karad	..	1,02,190.3.25	1,14,311.2.37 $\frac{1}{4}$
5.	" Walwa	..	1,76,870.1.56 $\frac{1}{4}$	44,251.3.31 $\frac{1}{4}$
6.	" Kuttao	..	83,046.1.18 $\frac{3}{4}$	90,874.0.15 $\frac{1}{4}$
7.	" Kanapoor	..	65,284.0.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	60,753.0.93 $\frac{3}{4}$
8.	" Punderpoor	..	83,768.3.58 $\frac{1}{4}$	82,200.2.25
9.	" Waece	..	96,932.0.68 $\frac{3}{4}$	83,932.2. 6 $\frac{1}{4}$
10.	" Korygaon	..	62,870.0.31 $\frac{1}{4}$	86,141.3.50
11.	" Bijapoor	..	57,591.0.56 $\frac{1}{4}$	66,731.3.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
12.	" Huzoor	..	..	16,619.0. 0
Total ..		16,43,547.0.15 $\frac{3}{4}$	8,73,952.0.25	7.69,594.3.93 $\frac{3}{4}$

Sd/ James Grant,
Pol. Agent,

Satara 3rd April 1822

With respect to the Political Agent's office and establishments the following increase will be requested :

1st A respectable head native on a salary from two to five hundred rupees per month.

2nd A treasurer for cash and Toshakhana at 100 rupees.

3rd A shroff at from 15 [to 30 rupees (at present I have neither the one or the other)

4th One carcoon at 80 rupees.

5th One carcoon at 30 rupees (I have only one carcoon Yessoba Dewkur)

15 peons (in addition to the present twenty) at 8 rupees each.

There may be some other establishments necessary which cannot be ascertained until completely separated from the Raja's, and in regard to what is mentioned it would be advisable to entertain fit persons only as they can be found. I know of no one whom I can recommend for the appointment of Head Native Assistant, there are advantages and disadvantages in having one in general. I believe they are both useful and proper but whoever may be appointed here must be very strictly superintended.

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No. 16. Pratapsinh assumes the reins of government on 5th April. A description of the ceremony for installing the Raja. The Raja told of his future relation with the Company as defined by the treaty. He expresses his gratitude. Chaplin feels that the Resident must exercise constant vigilance. The Raja surrounded by worthless aids and members of his family, especially his brothers. Grant's efficient management of Satara praised. The revenue was the highest ever collected. His army quite large to meet all troubles. The judiciary and police very efficient ; and the people generally happy. The Raja does not possess any qualities of an outstanding Prince. (From W. Chaplin to Francis Warden).

24th April 1821

Sir,

I have the honour to report for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council that the 5th of this month

having been considered by the Raja of Satara an auspicious day assuming the reins of government it was accordingly fixed for transferring to His Highness agreeably to the conditions of the treaty, the direct charge and control of his territory which has hitherto been under the immediate superintendence of Captain Grant, the Political Agent.

The necessary preparations having been made by Captain Grant, I proceeded on the 4th instant to Satara, where all the principal Jageerdars, subordinate to the Raja, had been previously assembled. Their presence on the occasion of investing His Highness with the full powers of administration had been particularly desired by the Raja, with a view to give elact to the ceremony as to add weight in the eyes of his subjects to his authority over them. The expediency of complying with his wishes not being questionable the whole of the principal Chiefs were convened at a public Darbar on the morning of the 5th instant when the seal and sikka of the State were publicly restored to His Highness by Captain Grant under a Royal Salute and by the Brigade drawn up for the occasion. A proclamation....was at the same time read aloud explaining the circumstance of the transfer of independent powers to the Raja and shortly defining his relations with the jageerdars placed under his government.

On the following day I received a visit from the Raja who was accompanied by his brother and his jageerdars, to all of whom, complimentary presents were distributed, proportionate to the rank of each agreeably to established usage.

On the evening of the succeeding day I returned the Raja's visit accompanied by Captain Grant and all the gentlemen attached to us respectively. His Highness received us at this new palace where I had an opportunity of holding a private conference with him, in the course of which I unfolded to him explicitly the nature of the connexion that would in future subsist between him and the Honorable Company as established by the treaty and more particularly defined in your despatch under date the 11th ultimo.

I availed myself of the occasion to offer to the Raja such advise in regard to his future conduct, as was naturally suggested by the peculiar circumstances under which he is placed. He expressed himself exceedingly grateful for the uninterrupted kind-

ness which had always been shown to him by the British Government and solemnly assured me of his resolution to be guided in all points of moment by the suggestion of the Resident, a continuance of whose counsel and good offices he especially solicited. He exhibited on the occasion a degree of good feeling and intelligence which lead me to form very sanguine hopes of his continuing to pursue such a line of conduct as will redound as much to his own credit as it will conduce to the prosperity of the country submitted to his charge and will leave us no room, I trust, to regret the policy that has dictated the restoration of the sovereignty to his family.

In order, however, to provide against disappointment of these expectations, a constant vigilance on the part of the Resident will be necessary to guard against internal and external intrigues on the part of the Raja's subjects. The Resident's interposition also will, still for a long time, be required to prevent abuses in the several departments of government which perhaps may be first expected to take place in the police and judicial branches. If remedies be not opportunely applied on the first appearance of any symptoms of relaxation, unfortunately, for the Raja stands alone, as far as concerns his family, his only remaining brother being worthless ignorant character addicted to the lowest habits of debauchery, who can lend him no sort of assistance, and is, I fear, utterly unworthy of trust or confidence. It is still more to be regretted that the Raja has few persons of either talent or respectability to whom he can confide the administration of affairs. Wittul Punt, the Dewan, is a man of ability, well disposed towards our government, and so persuaded of the unity of interest that subsists between the Raja and the Company that he will, it may be presumed, allow no very great irregularities to pass without communicating them to the Resident. The influence, however, of the Dewan is not very extensive, nor does he possess sufficient energy of character to avert the encroachments or disorder, should they once creep into the administration.

Adverting to these disadvantages under which the Raja labors there is ground for apprehension that he may, at some future period, be thrown into the hands of low designing people who profiting by his inexperience may obtain an ascendancy which in the end may prove exceedingly ruinous to his interests. There

seems to me to be no one rock on which he is so likely to split as this. He is surrounded by old hereditary household servants, called hoozras, who are rather of a disreputable character, and who, from constant access to him, may acquire a good deal of influence in the distribution of favors. His natural good sense which has been much improved by a personal attention to business will, however, aided by the advice of the Resident be sufficient I trust, to enable him to maintain the efficiency and respectability of his government.

The Political Agent has on former occasions submitted through me to government the several regulations which from time to time been introduced for the management of the country. I beg leave more particularly to refer to his quarterly report. Ever since the appropriation of a separate territory to the Raja, Captain Grant has devoted much of his time to the instruction of His Highness who has evinced a very creditable degree of ability and laudable disposition to improve himself. The Hindu institutions have been kept up as much as possible in their original spirit, purified however, from some of their grosser defects, and tempered by a degree of impartiality in the distribution of justice and of moderation and integrity in collection of revenue, which is rarely to be found in native administration and it is highly gratifying to me to be able to assure the Honorable the Governor in Council, that, the Political Agent's judicious exertions for the settlements of the country in all its branches of managements have been eminently successful when we look to the improved condition of the people the increase of revenue, the almost universal tranquility that prevails, the regularity that has been introduced in judicial affairs or to the general efficiency of the Political Department. Along with the attainment of these important objects, a system of conciliation has been followed by means of which the present attachment of the Raja to our interest has been secured on a footing which justifies a confident expectations that he will invariably consider the prosperity of his family and that of the British Government to be inseparably connected.

The letter dated the 3rd instant from Captain Grant, will, I trust, sufficiently explain the condition of the resources of the Satara territory at the time of the transfer to the Raja. It will be

observed from the revenue settlement..that the jumma bundee of current fuslie amounts to sixteen lakhs and forty three thousand rupees. It has been concluded with every attention to moderation and the receipts will probably not fall far short of sixteen lacks. This sum nearly exceeds by four lacks the lowest amount of revenue estimated for the Raja in the despatch No. 78 from the Honorable the late Commissioner to His Excellency the Governor General; and it is drawn from a country many parts of which possess capabilities of improvement and resources that still remain to be developed. I may, without being too sanguine, adhere to the estimate submitted in my letter of the 20th July 1820—in which I calculated the probable value of the territory at no distant period at 18 lacks of rupees, the highest sum ever contemplated for His Highness under any contingency. It must also be recollected that the lapse of pensions and of life jageers will yet add to the resources of the Raja's treasury.

The abstract of the Raja's expenditure, as exhibited by Captain Grant, after providing for every branch of his government on the most liberal scale exhibits a large surplus of revenue beyond his immediate exigencies. It may, however, be expected that his future expences will in some degree keep pace with his extended authority and I should not, therefore, anticipate the probability of his accumulating any saving; but with the common regard to economy, there will be no excuse for his involving himself in any financial embarrassments. His military force as last reported by Captain Grant consisted of about 800 horse, exclusive of the contingents of the jageerdars, and about 3,000 sibundies and 600 ghurkurrees or peons, who garrison hill forts. This establishment appears abundantly large for all purposes either of State or dignity or of internal management, the only objects of which the Raja has to make a provision, since the care of guarding him from external attack rests with the British Government.

There is little for me to remark on the administration of justice. The number of complaints shows that there has been a sufficient facility of access to complaints. The number of suits decided by panchayets is not very considerable but a great many appear to be settled by mamlatdars, probably in a summary manner, which however is quite consistent with the simplicity of native laws, and which, though liable to be abused, saves the

parties in suits from much vexation, expences and delay while, it probably on the whole, dispenses more real substantial justice than is to be obtained by more tedious formalities of process. What however is of utmost importance is, that the system appears to give satisfaction, in proof of which I may add that no complaints of the difficulty of obtaining redress in Satara have been preferred to me.

Of the general efficiency of the police I can also speak with some confidence. Petty crimes are numerous because our mode of punishing them by mild imprisonment and gentle punishment hardly holds out sufficient motives of apprehension to deter criminals from the commission of offences. Crimes of great magnitude are not of frequent occurrence, and when perpetrated appear for the most part, to have been traced and detected. Some feverish agitation, which has of late been promoted by example of disturbances in the Konkun has long prevailed among the mawulees along the whole range of the Shaydree mountains from Kolapoor to Joonur. But the active measures carried on against these marauders has nearly put a stop to their excesses above the ghauts. A notorious Naik of Ramoosses named Morraree, a pensioner of government, disappeared some months ago from Satara and joined the insurgents to the westwards with several followers. But I am happy to find that he has been lately seized by the Raja's police emissaries. The predatory habits of the hill people must long keep them unsettled and may lead to occasional outrages, but they never can be formidable to government though they may materially disturb the tranquillity and injure the prosperity of those districts which from the difficult nature of the country, are favourable to their plundering operations.

It is perhaps premature to speculate on the effect likely to be produced on the Mahratta people by the emancipation of the Raja, but I do not think it will be very considerable. He has till now been completely in leading strings and has consequently been regarded as a mere cipher. Sirdars of the old Mahratta families and the Mahratta portion of the population in the Deckun are pleased by the restoration of the Satara Dynasty. The Raja's Court has been opened with a considerable splendour, which has gratified the pride of his own nation. Some of his sirdars have felt their attendance at Satara, which has been required more than



once during the year, rather irksome but as there will probably be no cause to summon them in future, except at Dussera, there will I trust, be no ground for dissatisfaction. The Punt Suchew was once disposed to shew some sign of insubordination but he has of late evinced better feelings and has successfully exerted himself in putting down the insurgents in his vicinity. His conduct in this particular has been meritorious and has atoned for some few faults before committed.

The Akulkotkur is accused, and I believe justly, of countenancing some marauders who have of late been committing depredations within the Nizam's frontier, and I took occasion when he visited me at Satara to point out the infallible consequences of his harbouring such delinquents—a line of conduct which I told him would, if persisted in, lead to the sequestration of his jageer.

Janraonaik Nimbalkur has been carrying on a correspondence with some of his connections at Sindiah's Court and also with the Nipankur. The subject of his communications, as far has been discovered is of an innocent character—but as their holding, any such intercourse at all is strictly forbidden by the terms of their agreement with government, both Nimbalkur and Appa Dessae have been seriously warned to discontinue such irregularities, and the former has given security for his future good behavior.

Of the other dependent Chiefs belonging to Satara no particular mention deems requisite.

Although the Raja now possesses in his own hands the power of government yet all his subjects are impressed with the idea that a good deal of control and restraint will still be privately exercised by the British Resident. Some time must, therefore, elapse before he can be regarded by his subjects with much respect, and though he possesses good sense, conduct and prudence he is not likely ever to signalize himself by the influence of any commanding talents. None of the family have inherited the energies of their great founder Seewajee and their rule having been in a great degree superseded for nearly a century it is scarcely to be expected that the present Chief, whose capacity is not above mediocrity, can suddenly acquire much consequence as an independent Prince. He is too much identified with our government to be considered much more than an instrument in our hands—and it is perhaps as

well this opinion should continue, since it may secure the tranquility of his territory and guarantee his own good conduct. Were he left to act for himself exclusively, according to his own discretion, there might be some reason to apprehend his emulating the example of his father Shoo Maharaj: who at the time when the weakness of the late government allowed him some months to be the head evinced a disposition to tyranny and cruelty, which had his powers been of long duration, would probably, have proved baneful to his subjects.

The system of village government in Satara under the Political Agent's able superintendence has been much invigorated and the authority of the patells to levy exactions and to committ all sorts of vexations that prevailed under the farming system being curtailed the condition of the mass of people is evidently ameliorated since our acquisition of this country. Many cultivators who had emigrated have returned to their villages. Many natives of rank employed under the former government are of course without service, and consequently dissatisfied, but I am informed by the Resident that the little innovation that has taken place has give satisfaction to the generality of the Mahrattas who seem fully to appreciate our policy of preserving and upholding their customs and usages, and our liberality in restoring landed property and conferring pensions. This liberality, however, has been insufficient to provide for the numerous karkoons in the service of the former government, who are now in a state of great proverty and it is only by degrees that they can be expected to betaken themselves to agriculture, almost the only pursuit which appears to be left to their choice.

Some of the employed soldiery have turned cultivators but they are still considered by Captain Grant to be numerous and discontented body that will readily avail themselves of any opportunity of joining insurrection. He considers them extremely disaffected to our government, and I have no doubt they are so from a very natural feeling on the part of the people, whom we have ceased to feed, and who cannot at once change the indolent habits of military life, for the more laborious diligence which is required to ensure success by agricultural occupation. The Resident computes the number of foreigners as infantry soldiers out of employ at about 2,000 who live in large towns in a state of much distress

and of soldiers of the country at about 5,000—of those, the proportion of horse to foot is estimated by the natives at one to four, one half of the whole number are supposed to have been sillidars or bargeers. I think that of those belonging to the country, however, a large proportion are directly, or by means of their relations, engaged in agriculture, or if not already so, that they soon will resort to that mode of livelihood, and that they will at no distant period become amalgamated with the rest of the population, unless some internal disturbance should furnish them with the means of bringing into play their former Mahratta, or which is synonymous, marauding propensities.

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No. 17. Congratulating the Resident on the very satisfactory administration of Satara. (From Francis Warden to W. Chaplin)

10th May 1822

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 24th of last month reporting your proceedings on the investiture of the Raja of Satara with the full and uncontrolled powers of his Government.

The Honorable the Governor in Council has derived great satisfaction from the prosperous state in which the territory of Satara has been transferred to the Raja.

Every branch of the administration of that territory having been conducted by Captain Grant, since the first acquisition of it by the British Government, there can be no better testimony to the merit of that great gentleman than is afforded by its present condition, by the flourishing state of the revenue and by tranquillity established in the tract, which under the late government was a scene of frequent and formidable insurrections.

The Governor in Council has also great pleasure in recording his sense of the distinguished ability and unwearied zeal and diligence of Captain Grant; and his conviction that if the territory shall continue to enjoy its present advantages, it will owe them to the success of the Resident's exertions, in restoring the vigor of its native institutions, and in acquiring the confidence and directing the habits of its future sovereign.

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No. 18. Suspected intrigues at the Court of Satara. Shinde sends a vakil carrying invitations to the Raja and other Sardars in the Deccan for the marriage of his daughter. Nothing of this invitation was known to the Resident for some time, hence his suspicions. Such intercourse must not be permitted said Mr. Chaplin, the Commissioner. (From W. Chaplin to James Grant.)

24th July 1822

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th and 18th instant, respecting the letter from Shinde which had been secretly forwarded to His Highness the Raja of Satara together with your despatch of 21st instant respecting a similar communication to the Punt Suchew.

The karkoon who was employed by Bujaba Nayk Nimbalkur arrived here yesterday and at first declared that he was a karkoon of Dajeeba Desmookh, but on being further pressed, he admitted that he was in the service of Bujaba Nayk, and had been employed by him in the business. The Desmookh also admitted his share in the transaction and declared that the invitations to the marriage of Shinde's daughter had been sent to him to be delivered to various sirdars in the Deccan to whom he had accordingly forwarded them, but that he had not received any instructions of secrecy, and that the blame was entirely his own.

The vakeels of the Punt Suchew, the Putwurdhun etc., had before produced their letters to me and requested my orders and I am certain that the Desmookh himself did not in [a general way mentioned that he had been desired to deliver some invitations. As I considered, therefore, that the affair had not been concealed, although the letters were not openly delivered by the vakeel and that the invitation was a mere matter of empty compliment no displeasure was expressed, but the Punt Suchew's vakeel was referred to you.

In the case of the Raja, however, the proceeding was entirely different and the letter of the vakeel is sufficient evidence that he was conscious of the highly culpable part he was acting. The invitation itself contained nothing improper, it was the act of communicating and especially in so clandestine a manner that was to be reprobated and it was the more necessary to mark your sense of the offence in the case of the Raja, since although

the letter itself was of no consequence, yet it might have been a first step to further intercourse, which, were it even merely of a complimentary nature, cannot without express sanction be permitted.

Your proceedings, therefore, are entirely approved and you will have the goodness to communicate my sentiments to His Highness. The carcoon has been sent back to be dealt with as you may see fit, but as he was probably not aware that he was committing any crime in obeying the orders of his master, I should think the punishment he had already suffered would be sufficient for all purposes.

I have severely reprimanded the Deshmookh and warned him to be more circumspect in his future proceedings, and a similar caution shall be given to the Punt Suchew's vakeel.

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No. 19. The Resident wishes to resign on ground of ill health. The government expresses its gratitude and thanks for the able management of the government of Satara. (From Francis Warden to James Grant.)

3rd January 1823

Sir.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27th of the last month enclosing a medical certificate stating the necessity of your proceeding to Europe for the recovery of your health.

In recording your resignation of the situation of Resident at Satara the Governor in Council will not fail to bring to the notice of the Honorable the Court of Directors the zeal, prudence and ability with which you have conducted the important duties entrusted to you.

The high state of prosperity to which the Raja of Satara's country has attained when it was made over to His Highness; the favourable disposition of His Highness towards the British Government and his subjects; and the order and method introduced into very part of his administration have lately come under the personal observation of the Honorable the Governor who will have great pleasure in pointing them out to the Honorable Court as the result of your able and judicious management.

You will receive the permission of the Acting President in Council to proceed to England on delivering* the usual application through the Commander-in-Chief for that purpose.

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No. 20. Failure to collect the stipulated revenue. The Raja in financial difficulty. Ways and means suggested to meet this difficulty. (From J. Briggs to W. Chaplin),

29th July 1823

Sir,

It is unnecessary for me to acquaint you of the difficulty that has occurred in this territory as well as in other parts of the Deccan this year in realizing the stipulated revenue from the land. I am lead to believe in His Highness's country the balances which are considered irrecoverable amount to about four lacs of rupees, being one fourth of his revenue.

The expenses of this government have been apportioned out in such a manner as to leave little or no surplus, and the Raja is bound by treaty not to reduce the number of his troops. Under the above circumstances he was placed in the awkward dilemma of either borrowing four lacs of rupees or of making such reductions in his expences as to meet this contingency.

He had frequent consultations with me on the state of his affairs and after devising many plans and making several calculations it was determined to adopt a modified one and such as was the least obnoxious to all parties. He considered that the cause of the defalcation of revenue arose out of no temporary calamity of war, sickness or seasons. The crops were for the most part abundant and no land had been thrown out of cultivation but now produce, particularly grain, was more than half as cheap as before and by a parity of raising money (for the time being)

* James Grant in his letter of 27th December 1822 places on record his thanks to Colonel Cleiland, his first Assistant, Mr. Morris and Captain Adams, Revenue Serveyor. " I do confidently recommend them as public servants of ability, zeal and deligence."

By 1823 James Grant left Satara and was succeeded by W. R. Morris, Acting First Assistant and Resident-in-Charge. From the 8th March letters bear the signature of John Briggs as Political Resident at Satara. The last letter signed by Mr. Morris is dated 5th March 1823.

was twice as valuable. He considered, therefore, that the most convenient, as well as the most equitable way, was to reduce the pay of all public servants and he was content to shew the example in his own person, besides making other reductions in his civil establishment.

More then two months were occupied in digesting the details of this arrangement and the following plan was determined on in case his exigencies should absolutely require the sacrifice.

1. To reduce a portion of his police sibundies althogether and to avoid the eventual expence of garrison in the forts of Booshmegur, Waroogur, Mymangur and Sudashewgur to render those forts untenable.

2. To equalise the pay of all classes of sebundies and to put the whole on a more economical footing.

3. To give up out of his own private purse 25 per cent or one lack of rupees.

4. To make such stoppage (?) not to exceed three months pay as might be eventually found necessary from all public servants receiving more than 50 rupees per month.

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No. 21. The Raja contemplated reduction in his expences due to the fall in revenue because of the bad season. Suggestions from the Raja to the Resident. The Raja very particular about economy in his administration. Reductions, especially in the army establishment, could only be effected by introducing a change in the Treaty. (From John Briggs to W. Chaplin).

3rd December 1823

Sir,

In consequence of the great defalcation of revenue arising out of bad season principally, as well as out of low prices which have till lately obtained for raw produce in this country, His Highness the Raja has for a considerable time been determining on curtailing the expense of his government but as by an article of the treaty he can neither reduce nor increase his military force and as the principal part of that force consists in the Rissala of 500 horse transferred to His Highness and whose continuance in service is gauranteed by us, he is anxious to submit for your consideration.

the reductions he has in contemplation. The expenses of his administration were fixed by Captain Grant under the sanction of our government, and no alteration has since been made, but the receipts have latterly so much diminished, that some permanent reduction is absolutely necessary to prevent this little Principality being involved in a debt, to the repayment of which its finances seem incompetent.

The items of these expenses may be thus classed :

His Highness the Raja		400,000
Extra contingencies		100,000
Rissala 500 horse	200,000	
Balasaheb Bhosla 200		
Horse	80,000	
Hoozoor Paja 100 Horse	50,000	330,000
3441 Sibundies of all		
description		200,000
Hoozoor Cutcherry		75,000
District Cutcherry		
Establishment		100,000
Public Pensions and		
Nemnooks		60,192
Revenue Survey		40,000
Aqueduct at Satara		25,000
Pioneers for roads		30,000
Extra public contingencies		
such as building, repairs,		
travelling and other		
expenses		100,000
		15,20,000

Captain Grant during the last two years of his administration realised upwards of 15,50,000 each year and calculated that the Raja's revenue would increase, this however has not been the case, the realisations including the balances in 1822-23 amounted to 14,25,314 and in 1823-24 to 14,43,617. In the present year the great loss of cattle and the destruction of the khureef crop will fall heavily on him and it is hardly possible to calculate on collecting

more than 12,00,000. Meanwhile [the treasury only exhibits a balance of 1,41,711 on the 1st November which will do little more than meet current expenses of one month and no revenue can be expected for two or three more months.

It is in justice to the Raja, I must say, that he owes no portion of his present distress either to mismanagement or to unnecessary profusion on his part. He has from the day of his being vested in full authority at Satara limited his personal expenses to the sum fixed by the British Government for him when the country was under Captain Grant's control, and to prevent any encroachment on this amount he retains a distinct privy purse into which the sum fixed is paid monthly nor has he ever exceeded it. The balance he looks upon as public money and the disbursements are made in strict conformity with the arrangements of Captain Grant.

It is apparent from what has been shown that the Raja has no alternative to avoid ruin but that of making immediate reductions. This he proposes to do. Firstly, curtailing the pay of his public servants.

Secondly, by relinquishing a portion of the sum set aside for himself

Thirdly, by reducing the number of his military followers.

Fourthly, by foregoing for the present the improvement in roads and buildings which have heretofore been in progress.

He is prevented, however, from carrying fully into effect the third measure, both on the account of the article of treaty whereby he is prevented from altering the scale of his military establishment, as well as from the guarantee given to the auxiliary horse transferred to him by the British Government.

Auxiliary Horse	467	
A troop of cavalry	<u>33</u>	
Paga of Balashaib		500
Bhoslay		200
Hoozar Paga		100
		<u>800</u>

Sibundies of all sorts including police peons 3,441.

In my opinion that no very great reduction can be made of his sibundies. Many are required for guarding the passes of his

country; for protecting the treasures coming from the districts monthly; for police duties; and collecting the revenue and lastly for the duties of the town of Satara. In this branch, however, he still proposes making an effort to curtail a part of the expenses of the horse. The Hoozur Paga consists entirely of personal retainers, and the number is sufficiently limited. The Paga of Balashib Bhoslay having been raised in a hurry is found to contain the horses of persons strictly not military and His Highness proposes discharging 50 of them. The corps of Auxiliary horse, although it has received our guarantee for its pay and continuance in service, yet deem it proper to bring to your notice a subject which it occurs to me would warrant, under the present emergency, a reduction of a part of that body.

The object of maintaining that corp, if I mistake not, is to provide for needy soldiers of fortune left with horses in their possession at the end of the war, and without any hopes of other employment; but I am not aware that it formed any part of the project to find service for the horses of persons who are either pensioned, have taken their discharge or are since dead, and much less for those of merchants who have purchased the horses of such persons on speculation. The following instances occur most particularly, Meer Shoojut Ali Khan, formerly a Rissa'der of Auxiliary horse, is now residing with his father the Nawab Moortura Jung on the family estate at Untoor on 3,600 rupees per annum granted to him as a pension by the British Government on his being removed from the service in 1820 on the occasion of his retiring. Thirty five of his horse were left to be maintained at the Raja's expence.

The second instance is that of 25 horses originally belonging to one Kaley Khan a jemadar in the Ressala, who I hear was convicted of fraud and peculation some years ago, that his property was sold to make up his defalcations and himself discharged. One Gunesh Mahdew, a bramin, purchased his horses which continue in service and he enjoys all the benefits of the bargain.

The third instance is that of 11 horses belonging to Meer Kummur Ally Khan, a jemadar, who took his discharge some years ago.

There are two other instances one of four and another of 15 horses belonging to a Duffadar and a Jemadar lately deceased.

The strength of the Ressala is now reduced by casualties to 429 privates and it is the Raja's wish to be allowed to discharge 60 more giving to the owners of the horses two months pay on the occasion. It is requisite also to have a casting committee to reject such horses as are old or undersized by which many of the discharged horses might procure purchasers. The Raja then proposes that the Ressala shall consist of four divisions of ninety men each with a jemadar and duffardars in proportion, and that the troops of the regular cavalry, commanded by a jemadar, to be increased to 40 men shall stand in lieu of the fifth division. There are at present three duffadars more than the establishment of five divisions but His Highness means to allow them to remain as supernumeraries to fill up vacancies as they occur.

The Raja's expenses for the ensuing year will then stand as follows :

His Highness the Raja including contingencies	450,000
Rissala of 400 horse including the troops	140,000
Bala Sahib's Paga of 150 horses	54,000
Hoozoor Paga 100 horse	40,000
Sibundies 300 including all descriptions	200,000
Hoozoor Cutcherry	69,000
District Cutcherry	92,000
Pensioners of all descriptions	60,000
Survey	40,000
Aqueduct at Satara	25,000
Extra public contingencies such as enam, repairs of buildings, travelling expences and sundries and other items	80,000
	<u>12,80,000</u>

I have already stated that it is estimated not more than 12,00,000 rupees will be realized this year, and the Raja will be obliged to make a advance of at least 40,000 to 50,000 rupees to the cultivators to enable them to purchase stock again, so that I much fear he will be obliged to make a loan before the year is out and this will necessarily compel him to continue the present reductions for some time longer.

On the return of his wonted revenue he will gradually pay off any debts he may incur this year, restore the full pay of his public servants in which he is personally interested, complete the quota of his horses and lastly return to those improvements of his country to which he has hitherto devoted a considerable portion of his surplus revenue.

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No. 21. Reports death of Wittul Punt, Dewan of the Raja. The Raja deeply touched by the news. Search for a successor. The Dewan was a very able and honest servant of the Satara State. (From John Briggs to W. Chaplin).

11th April 1825

Sir,

It is with concern I have to report to you the death of Vittul Punt Mahajun, the Dewan of His Highness the Raja, this day at 9 O'clock in the morning. He had been unwell for the last eight or ten days and the affliction arising out of the late domestic calamity is supposed to have preyed on his mind which brought in the crisis that eventually ended in his death.

His Highness the Raja sent to speak to me immediately after this event took place at his palace. I went and found him sitting with his brother. The instant I was seated he gave loose [to his tears and wept aloud saying that he had lost the only faithful servant he had. He soon after composed himself sufficiently to speak on business but frequently repeated with sobs that he had no one to fill up the place of him who had gone. He asked my advice about his successor but I candidly told His Highness I was not sufficiently acquainted with the individuals of his government to say whom to appoint. At length after considerable discussion he ended by saying that he thought of nominating the late Dewan's son, a very respectable young man about 18 who has been brought up entirely under the Raja's own eye, as his successor, but the subject became painful, and I left His Highness without having come to any fixed resolution on the subject.

I am extremely apprehensive it will not be long before the Raja's government feels the effect of the loss of this minister. Without possessing shining talents Vittul Punt had great good sense and sound judgment, he was devotedly attached to the Raja's

welfare which he looked on as wholly dependent on the favor and protection afforded by the British Government. He was the most able support the Resident could have here and he had the singular sense never to encourage the Raja in anything that might tend to injure his private or public character, and when his opinion was asked which, however, he seldom intruded he always had the honesty and courage to give it fully and without hesitation and to maintain it with firmness and temper.

I have thought it a duty, as I knew the character of the late minister, to publicly record my opinion of his merits and it is a proof at once of His Highness the Raja's good sense and goodness of heart to acknowledge so candidly the great loss he had sustained, and as a token of his esteem to provide for his numerous family which is, I believe, left wholly dependent on the Raja's bounty.

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No. 23. The Resident deeply displeased with the Raja's conduct but does not wish to report to the Government at Calcutta. He fears Elphinstone may not like it. He does not agree with Elphinstone's estimate of the Raja's character. The search for a Dewan continues. The Raja's choice of a Dewan. The Resident feels that if the Raja is not guided properly he might get involved in intrigues that may cost him the crown. He fears that the Raja will open secret correspondence with the Raja of Kolhapur. (From John Briggs to Elphinstone).

8th October 1826

(*Confidential*)

My dear Sir,

You must be more heartily sick of this Nimbalkur affair even than I am; but as I am anxious that you should approve all I do to the end I now send you the draft of a letter which I intend to send to the secretary officially, if you think it will do. It is framed so as to evade the question of the Raja's behaviour to me as much as possible and I have, therefore, treated it more lightly than if I had felt myself bound to take it in a more serious light which would have compelled me to adopt a mode of defence by no means creditable to His Highness.

Mountstuart Elphinstone



Elphinstone

If you think the Raja was influenced from a dread of encountering me in the new view he took of the question, it is consoling for me to know that the same feeling actuated him in concealing his new resolve both from his minister Bala Sahib, his mother, and Appa Sahib, in whom he professes to place the utmost confidence. The dread arose out of a shame of his own inconsistency, but I feel quite convinced, not from any apprehension of being unable to do as he chose if he persisted in, but as Sir John Malcolm has said such conduct in these people is too common to excite indignation or surprise and I figure him in common with the whole race about whom in 12 months perhaps, I may almost cease even to interest myself. I am, I trust, incapable of feeling any lasting resentment against the Raja after being assured by you that my character has not suffered in your opinion nor can in any official report that is made of it to the Directors.

I am disposed to think that you give the Raja more credit for flexibility and disposition to meet our wishes than he deserves. Knowing what I do, this last affair has let me more into His Highness's true character than ever. Grant says of him : " He is the cleverest native I ever met with in his way, but his ruling passion and foible is intrigue which he learnt in his intercourse with Baji Row and Trimbuckjee ". I have already said in my character of him that he is in this respect extremely like Baji Row, and I promise you, he is not less determined in carrying his point however *bad* if he has once taken his line, and will be deterred by *no Resident* but by the effects of fear. After the death of poor Vittul Punt Dewan last year I wrote to Grant Duff telling him the state of affairs then, which I supposed would lead to the nomination of the young Dewan as minister under the tutelage of Nursoo Jamdar but the Raja failing in this (finding the youth and his mother inflexible in their resistance) has altogether set the young man aside and has brought in Bala Sahib who is wholly devoted to His Highness but who from not being able to read or write (tolerably even) is also incapable of filling the office. In his answer dated 12th May Grant Duff writes: Be assured the Raja will soon cease to be if Nursoo Jamdar and Tattya Abheynkur are privy councillors. I told Nursoo after I took over charge that if I ever found him meddling with government business I would send

him across the Neera and the Raja promised that he never should be employed. However, since he chooses to disregard all advice to appoint a child his Dewan under the tuition of a blackguard and to perpetuate their demoralising habits which disgraced the Court of Poona what can we hope from him. Again, I think it is a pity the Raja does not employ Dajeeba Joshey the sirsoobedar of More. He is the ablest and on the whole the best man under his government. The objections, I at one time should have had to seeing him in power, have now vanished and I really do think the Raja's stability would be much less problematical if he could be brought to consult him, or even to appoint him Wittul Punt's successor. It must come from himself never from you or me. The last sentence of this long para at once explains Grant Duff's opinion on the subject—that for the Resident at the Court the British Government, or even *Grant Duff in England*, to suggest such a thing would be most effectual to prevent it. It will be an extremely useful thing for my successor and government to have the recorded secret and confidential opinions of both myself and Grant Duff of the Raja and of his government, and I will finish my career by drawing up such a paper, not to hurt the Raja, but to enable the government to watch and prevent his downfall, which if left to himself by a too easy man, or driven to desperation by a too rigid one, he would effect in a very short time, and although the crisis is one which must and will come, one should endeavour to keep it off as long as possible. He endeavours to forget the Treaty, and to persuade himself, and his people, that he is quite his own master. He frequently regrets, rather too *publicly* that there is a Resident here at all; whenever his wishes are checked, and he has more than in one instance quoted and envied the independent condition of his neighbour of Kolapoor, with whom he will the very first opportunity open a private communication which will probably in the end compel us to take the government into our hands. My day is over and I feel quite relieved at the circumstance for my mind could not long have stood the constant exertion which it demanded to steer the course required of me, and the next man whom he may find he has no intention (?) to keep the Raja in humour and to fulfil his duty to his government.

I am very weak and unable to write more and I am surprised I have written so much.

P. S. I should like to get off before you come to Satara but I suppose that will be impossible.

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No. 24. The affairs of the Nimbalkar Jageer. His Highness permitted to appoint any one he chooses. (From John Briggs to W. Newnham, Secretary to the Governor, Bombay)

8th October 1826

Sir,

Adverting to a letter I lately received from the Persian Secretary addressed by the Honorable the Governor to His Highness the Raja of Satara I have the honor to acquaint you that I took the advantage of His Highness's paying me a private visit without ceremony on the 30th ultimo, the day after his arrival at his capital, to deliver into his hands.

From the tenor of that communication, and the message delivered by Nursoo Jamdar, it might be imagined the Raja entertained some resentment against me for the share, I thought it my duty to take, in the transaction of the Nimbalkar estates but which from the unreserved manner in which His Highness visited me could hardly be supposed to exist.

As His Highness did not, however, anticipate that his message would become known to me, he was somewhat embarrassed to explain the necessity of employing a third person to procure a confirmation of the permission already given as far back as the 12th June last, to appoint whom he preferred to the Nimbalkur Jageer, and which I had before assured him would still remain unaltered unless under some very peculiar circumstances – of this fact, however, he is now doubly convinced by the late letter of the Honorable the Governor and he will no doubt exercise his own unbiassed judgment in coming to a decision.

I have not thought it necessary to trouble the Honorable the Governor by sending him extracts from the diary of two long conferences I had on the subject.

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No. 25. John Briggs takes leave of the Raja. The gifts he receives. A cordial parting which Mr. Elphinstone would greatly appreciate. (From John Briggs to M. Elphinstone)

12th November 1826

Sir,

With regard to myself I think his conduct towards me has arisen chiefly from his ignorance of our character and a total miscalculation of it. He has been very disingenuous and has certainly fallen somewhat in my estimation but I am not much surprised on the whole. I cannot say all in private letter that I would like to add to the paper regarding himself and his government...nor am I aware that I should alter what I then said.

At the parting the Raja* said he hoped he should hear from me frequently and of me through my brother, he then took off a diamond ring from his finger which he put on mine and made over with his own hands his sword which usually lies before him which has his name inlaid on the back of it.

The ring is worth five hundred rupees and the sword has a steel handle and is quite plain. So you see we parted as you would have us and I sincerely wished myself on the best possible terms,

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No. 26. Report on the secret contacts between the Court of Satara and Kolhapur, (From W. Simpson to H. Baber, Political Agent, Southern Maratha Country)

3rd December 1826

Sir,

I had this morning the honor to receive your letter of the 15th instant relative to an interview projected by their Highnesses of Satara and Calapoor and I beg to inform you that the Honorable the Governor had timely intelligence of the concerted places

* At parting with the Raja Briggs was requested by His Highness to leave his brother in charge of road building on a salary of Rs. 500/- a month. Briggs said that his brother may apply but after he left the shores of India.

At another time (13th November 1826) he wrote of the Raja :

“ He is really a capital ruler if he would not meddle and interfere in other peoples concern. There is still, however, a vast deal of good with very little evil mixed in his administration ”.

Before he left (2nd January 1827) he claimed having finished the Life of Nana Fadnavis and gave it to Balaji Pant Kibe as a legacy to complete all Maratha History for the Education Society, Bombay. He left India on 15th January 1827 on board the ‘ Upton Castle ’.

detailed in your vakeel's report, as also of the communication which I made to His Highness the Raja of Satara on the subject.

The final division of your dispatch is translate of a paper addressed to me by your vakeel and dated Watar in Satara territory, December 13th. No such paper has reached me – the only material information I received from the Colapoor camp was through Captain Winbolt, to whom, I need have written, even before he quitted Poona, of the correspondence established, and begging that he would endeavour to find out the channel by which it was conducted. Not until the 15th instant that officer apprized me he had at length obtained a clue but had discovered the whole intrigue with the agent employed and the contrivances agreed on. It is possible your vakeel's letter may have been intercepted, and, it would be satisfactory to ascertain its fate; the detention of letters being a fact requiring investigation.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the Raja's brother Appa Sahib Maharaj is at present in the neighbourhood of Walwa on a revenue tour; and that Bala Sahib Bhosla, His Highness's cousin, will set out for Serala in a few days to inspect and renew some old guns in the fort at that place. I shall warn Captain Winbolt of this last mentioned circumstance and send a copy of this letter to government.

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No. 27. Report on Satara by John Briggs on the eve of his departure. Gives a history of Satara and Kolhapur; and an account of the Raja's Jagirdars. Gives a description of the Raja's behaviour and conduct. His treatment of his Jagirdars. His secret desire to communicate with other Native Princes. The Raja's growing resentment against British control. Copy of the Partition Treaty 26th April 1731 between Satara and Kolhapur, and other documents. (From John Briggs to W. Newnham.)

1st January 1827

Sir,

At a time when I am about to quit Satara it may be expected I should make some report on the condition of the Court at which I have been Resident during the last four years; and as this period immediately succeeded that during which the affairs of His Highness were entirely managed by my predecessor, it will be

satisfactory to the Honorable the Governor in Council to know what variation has taken place in the conduct of the public business, and in the state of the country since the departure of Captain Grant Duff.

That officer under the authority of government, transferred the whole management of our affairs into the Raja's hands a few months only before he left Satara, and I arrived at His Highness's Court in the beginning of 1823. That year and the following were remarkable for a drought throughout the Deccan, and a proportionate defalcation of revenue was everywhere felt; added to which the calamity, the want of forage in the hot weather of 1824 produced such a mortality among the horned cattle, that it was estimated, more than half the working oxen, throughout the Raja's districts were swept off, but those temporary evils were partially relieved by the favourable season of the last year and will be still more alleviated by the promising harvest of the present.

The aptness with which the Raja took to business under Captain Grant Duff is truly surprising, and the steadiness with which he pursues the system laid down by him is highly creditable to His Highness. He usually attends his office daily at about eleven or twelve O'clock when he sits and hears all complaints "viva voce" with secretaries around him making notes of such circumstances as require further investigation or reference. After the complaints are exhausted, he retires to his private office, where he has the letters read received from the districts, and dictates replies; after which, having heard the answers to the letters of the preceding day, they are sealed in his presence before being dispatched. The Raja's brother and heir presumptive App Sahib has also his particular department, which embrace the superintendence of the criminal court of justice and the business of the jageerdars, in the former of which duties he is assisted by four persons constituting the court—but no capital execution is carried into effect till the Raja has persued the proceedings of the trial, and has issued his warrant.

The whole of the civil suits (when the subject requires investigation) are decided by the Punchayet but when a case appears quite clear and the defendant acknowledges a debt, judgment is passed at once and the party is obliged to pay the amount. The Ghur Sumjoot or domestic arbitration, where the parties agree to

a settlement among themselves; Zatty Punchayet where each party brings a certain number of his own cast to act as advocates and jury in his cause; and the Surcarry Punchayet, where in default of the parties bringing their own members the government appoints disinterested persons to inquire and to decide. From these courts appeal lie to the Rajah, but as an appellant is obliged to find security to a large amount, in case the decree of the Punchayet is not reversed they are seldom made, and indeed as the Punchayet Courts are all open and access is easy, public opinion soon determines whether the decree is, or is not, decidedly unjust. The mamlatdars decide causes, and assemble punchayets in the same way, as at the Hoozoor, so that investigation is at every man's door, but I am by no means certain that the proceedings are such as would satisfy the high notions of European form of the quality of justice. It is, however, the only system that prevails in Indian Government and seem not ill adapted to the state of the society.

With regard to the state of the police of His Highness's territory I am of opinion that it is not inferior to our own, and the mode of punishment seems calculated to deter from crime, if we are to judge by the security of travellers, and the peaceable state of the country – robberies and thefts have been less frequent annually, heinous crimes are rare, few culprits escape the vigilance of the police, and the returns which His Highness prepared at my request, to be submitted to the Honorable the Governor, bear I believe ample testimony on the whole to the excellence of his management.

In addition to the advantages resulting from good government, it is pleasing to see such a disposition on the part of His Highness to improve his country. This inclination, as has yet more particularly confined to his capital, which from an insignificant straggling village, has (by opening several handsome streets) been converted into a respectable looking town. Broad roads lead to it, from all sides, and a very expensive and useful work, in the shape of an aqueduct, brought from a considerable distance now supplies the town with abundance of excellent water throughout the year. The last work in which he is engaged is a highroad leading over some stupendous mountain to the sea coast, exten-

ding forty miles in length of which more than twenty are already finished.

It would be fortunate if His Highness could rest satisfied with the exercise of so much good and confine his views, and wishes, to the welfare of his subjects and to the improvement of their condition but it is natural for a person of so active a mind and possessing so much authority to be tenacious (?) of restraint and anxious to extend the limits of his power. When we consider the mode in which he has been brought up, surrounded by low menials, and pinned within the narrow precincts of a hill fort, cut off not only from intercourse with men of character and talent, but deprived as far as was practicable of every means of improving himself. When we consider (I say) these great disadvantages, to which His Highness was subjected, until he attained the age of four and twenty, we shall be disposed to admire that energy of character and judgment he now displays in almost all instances wherein his personal feeling are not concerned.

As I am not quite sure the actual condition of the former Rajas of Sattara is sufficiently well known to government it may not be amiss to take a short view of their history up to the period of the late war. At the time when Shoojee obtained his release from the confinement of the Moguls in the year 1707 and came to the Deccan he found his aunt Tara Bye ruling in the name of her son (an idiot) over the territory acquired by Sevajee of which the mountains in which Lohgur, Shewgur and Poorunder exhibit points as the northern most boundary having the sea coast on the west as far to the south as Malwan. From thence a line drawn to the junction of the Wurda and Toombudra rivers will furnish the southern limits and thence by the Mahdeo Hills to Jejory and Poorunder we have a boundary of circumvallation of the utmost extent of the territory of the early Marratta sovereigns.

The dissensions between Tara Bye and her nephew, led to a division of interests and Sambhaji the half brother of her son Raja Ram having secured the fort of Punnala near Kolhapoor kept possession of the southern tract in spite of Sahoojee till at length his tittle to a separate kingdom, as the decendant of Sevojee's younger son, and a partition treaty was drawn up on the 26th April 1731 and is in possession of His Highness the Raja

of Sattara. This treaty it will be seen makes nearly an equal division of the Marratta dominions at the time leaving the rivers Warna and Krishna as the defined boundaries between the two kingdoms of Kolapoor and Sattara.

It was immediately after this that the Peshwa of the latter house began to extend their authorised demands for chowte on the neighbouring Empire of the Mogul and to make those conquests which eventually contributed to the importance of the Marratta State.

The House of Sevajee had attained the plenitude of its power in the year 1749 while Sahojee still sat on the throne and it seems that the sum total of the receipts for the privy purse scarcely exceeded six lacks of rupees as exhibited in the document procured from the Raja's records. Sahojee died in 1750 and on the occasion of the accession of his adopted son Raja Ram the amount for the privy purse was reduced so that I find among the documents, to which His Highness kindly gave me access, a paper purporting to be an abstract account current of the receipts and disbursements of the State prepared for His Highness by Balajee Bajee Row Peshwa, commonly called Nana Sahib, dictated in the year 1760 previously to the fatal battle of Panipat. This document is also translated.*

Of the authenticity of these papers there can exist no doubt and the last is singularly curious and valuable as pointing out in the first place the exact extent of the Raja of Sattara's own territory, exclusive of the Peshwa's conquest, which seems to be little more than he has at present with much the same revenue, and secondly, it exhibits the sum allotted for the privy purse, which if we include a lac of rupees at present allowed for the contingencies amount to 28 per cent more than the royal family then received. That the rest of the receipts and disbursements is very correctly stated we have do satisfactory means of proving.

There is reason to believe that this sum of four lacs was considerably reduced on the death of Ram Raja but some notion may be formed of the style of expenditure from the following correspondence found in Nana Furnavee's private duffer with Sudashew Annund, the person appointed to supply the family with

* Not found with the enclosures with this letter.

money. He writes after the death of Raja Ram, which took place on the 11th December 1778, on the occasion of performing the funeral obsequies as follows. It is right that we should know precisely how much is to be expended on the "kreea" (mourning ceremony) ten or twelve thousand rupees will be required at least, in the meantime we have elephants, horses and cloths that we can give away but not enough money. I brought with me five thousand rupees which I have got but we shall certainly want 8,000 or 9,000 rupees more—and at a later period a letter in Nana Furnavee's hand directs Sudhashew Annund on the 17th May 1791 not to allow the marriage ceremony of the Raja's "daughter to exceed 50,000 rupees" and this at a period of war and pecuniary distress. Besides these proofs of the respectable treatment experienced by the Rajas of Satara there are abundant testimonies to confirm the facts of pains being taken to prevent the Raja forgetting the dignity of his station. I find that the movement of troops, preparations for war, the favourable results of the battles and campaigns were regularly reported to the Raja. Honors were granted by him and the succession to the great hereditary offices and estates received confirmation from the presence alone.

The effort made by the Raja of Satara in the month of February 1798 to emancipate himself and the protracted struggle maintained for many years after by his brother Chutoor Sing led to the close confinement of the Raja in the fort of Satara by Raja Ram. The 2nd Sahoo, father of the present Raja, died in 1808 so that the latter may be said to have alone experienced during his whole life the consumation of the indignity to which the House was doomed to be subjected, instead of money, food, raiment suitable to their stature was provided for the family and although a close prisoner the form of addressing "petitions to the foot of his throne" was preserved to the last and a mock dignity was observed towards him even at the very lowest ebb of his humiliation.

At the close of the war motives of policy as well as of generosity prompted the British Government to raise the fallen dynasty and a territory was accordingly assigned equal as it now appears to what his ancestors ever possessed (if we except the conquest of the independent Peshwas) to the Raja of Satara to support in comfort the dignity of his family. A treaty was at the same time

framed specifically stating that this was granted as a boon out of respect to the antiquity of the House and that the occupation of the territory in subordinate cooperation with the British Government, and conforming to its advise on all occasions and refraining from all intercourse whatsoever with foreign States formed the bases of the agreement, any violation of which would subject the Raja to forfeit all the advantages derivable from the treaty; and although it is impossible to misunderstand the true nature of his condition, or that the Raja should not feel grateful to the British Government which has thus elevated him, my observation leads me to say, whatever the world may think, His Highness conceives that he is only raised to that station which is due to his birth and which common justice would have assigned to him.

Had the Raja possessed no other authority than that which necessarily belonged to him over his immediate subjects his notion of sovereignty would probably been more rational and limited; but it was thought not inconsistent with the same views that placed him on the throne to put all the great officers of the House of Sevajee by their own choice in dependence on His Highness, requiring of them on the one hand to serve according to usage.

Three generation had elapsed since these officers ceased to regard the House of Satara as their head. Most of them held rank equal to the Peshwas, and some had openly disputed their authority; while others taking advantage of local circumstances had nearly established their independence. They considered, however, at the end of the war no doubt that it was better to serve under the dynasty of kings of Satara, then be subjected to the rule of the British Government with which they were unacquainted; but subsequent events have proved that they are by no means satisfied with the conditions in which they now find themselves.

Under the circumstance in which both parties are placed it is not surprising that the Raja on the one hand should consider these Chiefs as his natural born subjects and dependents, and endeavour to render them completely subservient to his will, while on the other, it is extremely repugnant to those Chiefs, who were themselves born to govern, and who have been accustomed to enjoy the exercise of an authority nearly independent, to resist every encroachment of a Prince whom they consider as having forfeited his claim to their allegiance by the imbecillity of his ancestors, and

who owes to chance, not to conduct or even hereditary descent, his present elevation; so that although they refrain from direct opposition to His Highness from apprehension of British Government, yet they perform their service with reluctance and constantly bring the true situation of the Raja to his mind by appealing to the British authority against any undue exercise of his power. Some account of the character of each of these Chieftains and their history will not here be out of place.

The first of whom I shall speak of is Pursuram Punt Prithee Nidhee, who succeeded to his jageer 48 years ago, on the day of his own birth, and on that of his father's death. His estates were then valued at 12,00,000 of rupees and comprised most of the country now possessed by the Raja of Satara. In early life Pursuram Punt abandoned himself to profligate society and to the pursuits of amusements so full of eccentricity as to be nearly allied to insanity. Having enlisted more soldiers than he was able to maintain, and having rendered himself the associate of some of the worst characters among them, he connived at their plundering the Peshwa's districts, till at length he drew on him the attention of the government, so that in the year 1808 one Balwunt Row was sent with force to endeavour to seize his person. Pursuram Punt made an attack on the Peshwa's officer and defeated him, but he was subsequently attacked in turn by Bapoo Gokla when he displayed great personal courage, but being crippled for life by the wounds he received he fell into Gokla's hands. He remained some time after a prisoner in Poona but was eventually released in 1810-11 and a territory yielding two lacs of rupees was restored to him, which he still holds. Pursuram Punt is separated from both his wives who were pensioned by him at the instance of Captain Grant Duff. His character remains much the same. A regiment of native Portuguese which he once had in pay, has dwindled down to fifteen men, who with ragged clothing and rusty muskets preceded by some drums and pipes and followed by one sorry elephant form his state in preference to the usual native cavalcade. With all this and much other eccentricity of character Pursuram Punt is perfectly harmless. He makes a point of extolling the liberality of the British Government but is by no means satisfied with the mode in which he is treated by the Raja. I have never heard any complaints against his interior administration, which is

principally entrusted to the management of Krishna Row Tattia Joshey, an old confidential agent of Nana Furnavees.

The next whom I shall speak on is Malloji Row Bhosla denominated Raja of Akalcote. This young man is now about 25 years of age and succeeded to his father Fatty Sing who ruled in Akulcote for forty years and died at an advanced age in April 1823. The character of Fatty Sing Bhosla and the proximity of his estates (valued at three lacs of rupees annual revenue) to the territory of the Nizam, enabled him to render himself nearly independent of the Peshwas. His title of Raja, although derived from the circumstances of his ancestors, having been patronized by the House of Satara, gives him a pretension to dignity to which his family would not otherwise be entitled, but the fact of possessing undisputed authority, in a part of the Marratta dominions, so situated as to ensure his great consideration both from the Nizam and the Peshwa, has rendered the head of the family impatient of control. The attendance on the Raja of Satara, therefore, at the Dussera and on other occasions was altogether so novel that the late Fatty Sing resisted it strenuously, till compelled to give up the point on Captain Grant Duff's resuming one of his villages. His son Mallojee Row is not less tenacious of his dignity than his father, and the natural fervour of youth rouses him to resent any encroachment on it. It has been with the utmost difficulty I have contrived to make him feel the necessity of his conforming to the agreements, into which his father entered, both with the Raja and the British Government, but he is far from reconciled to the behaviour of His Highness who I fear on his part will not soon forget the appeal Mallojee Row lately made to government, nor, his effort to obtain emancipation from his fealty to the Raja of Satara. The territory of Akulcote has not fallen off in revenue, I believe, since the accession of the present Chief nor do I hear any complaints of his administration, beyond that of an old dispute regarding the surdeshmooky (the claim to which as far as I have yet learned) is wholly unfounded. His Highness the Raja, however, contrives to keep the cause alive and thus excites in the mind of Mallojee Row continued ferment and vexation.

The third Chief of consequence is Chimajee Shankur Punt Suchew adopted by Shankur Row on his death bed twenty five years ago when the present Punt was about five years of age. His

estates lie on both sides of the Neera, principally within the Collectorate of Poona and yield about two and a half lacs of rupees annually, they were much mismanaged by the former minister during the nonage of the Chief who on attaining the age of twenty wrested the authority from his adoptive mother, and having imprisoned her, took the administration in his own hands. Captain Grant Duff procured for this lady (who resides at Waee) an annual stipend of 17,000 rupees payable out of the Jageer. Between her and her adopted son the most deadly enmity exists and the latter is cruel enough to withhold her pension whenever he can find any excuse for doing. The Punt is a young man of acute and active mind, extremely prone to intrigue, and is I fear wholly devoid of every good principle. The police of his district is scandalous. He siezes robbers only to extort part of their booty, and to let them loose on the public, amid his own fastnesses, which are particularly favourable for their safe retreat from the Honorable Company's districts which they plunder as well as his own. His own subjects are not only the victims of this policy but are submitted to every sort of exaction and extortion under the head of fines, levied principally on the plea of punishing the infidelity of married persons of both sexes.

For the last fifteen months several of the zamindars and other persons of Punt Suchew's country have come to Satara appealing against his decisions in some civil suits, wherein they say, and probably with truth, that the grossest injustice has been done. He has been frequently warned both by myself and the Raja of his conduct, and although he promises fairly, the plaintiffs continue as clamorous as ever, and it has been impossible to procure justice to be done them.

He is his own minister and manages personally all his concerns. Rapaciousness is his principal motive for action, but in its pursuit he has sometimes become the dupe of knaves who have pretended that they possess the philosopher's stone, or practice the art of alchemy. On one occasion he was tricked out of 4,000 rupees just before I came to Satara. He is also fond of horticulture and has a large garden laid out in the Europe style, full of English fruits and plants. Among others he cultivates English lucerne and oats, and has several different kinds of Europe poultry which he keeps as curiosities. He esteems all articles of Europe

manufacture but his avarice will always prevent his going to the expence of purchasing them. He would be very much out of favor with the Raja but he continues to keep the small courtesies and courtiers about His Highness in good humour by reasonable application of douceurs and avoids giving personal offence by taking care never to appeal to the Resident or communicating with him, except when absolutely necessary.

Next comes the Naig of Phultun. The case of this family has been as fully brought to the notice of the government in my last correspondence that I abstain from saying more on the subject. The estate under the late venerable Chieftain, Jan Row was tolerably well managed but the old man, of late years, became very avaricious, and gave countenance to some proceedings, which he was obliged to disown and to compromise with the injured parties by large payments of money.

The last Chief of consequence is Ram Row Dufla. He was the head of the younger branch of the family and is nearly sixty years old. On the demise of Saloo Bye (the second widow of Kanojee Dhufia, the head of the family) who died in December 1823, the surumjam would have lapsed to the Raja but at the recommendation of the British Government he conferred it on Ram Row whose own estate then devolved on his younger brother Yeswunt Row, commonly called Dajeeba Dhufia. The Jath and Kurzgy Mahals are estimated at 1,90,000 rupees but do not now yield more than 40,000 and owing to bad years and extreme bad management they are reduced to a still low ebb. Ram Row though not a downright idiot is so extremely weak in his intellect, that he might almost pass for one. He permits his brother Dejeeba not only to realize the revenue of his old family estate, but to interfere in the management of his new jageer, so that he can neither get any person competent to undertake the task nor does he himself derive any revenue from it. The Raja has advanced to the estate, within the last two or three years, about 40,000 rupees chiefly for personal expence of Ram Row, and the maintenance of his house at Satara, while his ministers have borrowed seventy five thousand rupees more from other quarters, making a total of 1,50,000 rupees within the last two years. Ram Row was so importuned by his creditors in June last that he fled and came to Satara, when he begged of the Raja to assist him

and at length gave full powers to His Highness which were placed in my hands. His Highness proposed one or two plans to me for relieving the estate which comprised the alienation of a small part of the uncultivated land forever, in liquidation of the enormous interest which is daily accruing, and it was resolved that the management should be placed in the hands of a person to be named by the Raja who should take the whole debt at once on his shoulders. The manager was to maintain the sircar horse, and to assign a portion of the revenue to Ram Row for his support. But on the Raja calling for an account of the debt, and requiring Ram Row's ministers to shew how the money had been expended he was induced to protest against the whole proceeding and is now residing at Satara in a most distressed and disreputable condition, the surunjamy horsemen being many months in arrears. The subject has been brought to the notice of the Honorable the Governor by His Highness himself and I am decidedly of opinion that he should in concert with the Resident at his Court, be requested to propose some defined plan for the settlement for Ram Row's affairs, which after meeting with the approbation of the Government His Highness might be requested to carry into effect.

In the first part of this report I took occasion to describe the result of His Highness's civil administration. I shall now allude more particularly to his private character and conduct towards the Jageerdars. During Captain Grant Duff's administration Vittul Punt Mahajun an old and faithful servant of the family, was the Raja's Prime Minister. He was much attached to him, but saw more clearly than His Highness does his true situation; and his honest and manly character prevented him from encouraging the Raja in speculations as foreign to his interests, as to the relations on which he stands to the British Government. Vittul Punt died after a weeks illness in April 1825 but not before he had outlived the Raja's favor, and had become an object of his jealousy and suspicion. On the death of Vittul Punt His Highness declared his intention to make his son Govind Row (a lad of nineteen brought up under his own eye) successor to his father, and for this purpose he nominated Nursoo Jamdar, a confidential domestic, but of low and bad character to superintend the conduct of the young man. Vittul Punt's widow and her son, had both

spirit enough to resist the arrangement, and consequently Govind Row is now entirely out of favor, though he enjoys three fourths of the salary of his late father. Bulwant Row, Raja Bhosla, the Raja's cousin german by blood, is employed as his agent to communicate with the Resident but as he writes and reads indifferently he is not very equal to transact business by himself. He is, however, a sensible man and though devoted to the Raja is not blind to his failings and I believe much attached to both from inclination and principle to the British Government.

In viewing His Highness's private character while there is much to approve there is still a good deal to lament. He is a kind master, and fond of bestowing presents on those immediately about his person with whom he is usually on more familiar terms than is altogether consistent with his dignity, an evil which becomes serious when it leads to the discovery of His Highness's sentiments on all subjects which become subjects of conversation among the domestics and is very soon current among every description of people in the town. These communications are by no means made by His Highness in confidence. The Raja is unfortunately incapable of confiding in anyone; and is himself equally the object of general suspicion. His Highness having had little intercourse with the world has never been led to compare himself with other men, he dislikes brahmins, as much as on account of their disposition to support each other, as because he feels that in point of talent and certainly in point of information they surpass him and it is this feeling that induces him to make low and ignorant persons his associates. While he cannot but admire the British Government and its institutions he has become extremely jealous of our interference in his administration wishing to persuade himself and those about him that he is in reality as independent as his inclination would lead him to be. He shows this on every occasion and strenuously rejects every offer of aid, which may tend to the introduction of persons into his service, who having been once into ours, may have a leaning towards our government.

On the establishment of the administration under my predecessor His Highness the Raja had four lacs of rupees set apart for the current expenses for himself and family a sum equal to that assigned to Ram Raja in 1760, of which 60,000 were paid to his

mother, the Dowager, and the same to his brother Bhow Sahib and though both these persons died several years ago he has not increased the stipend of any other member of the family but has set aside the amount to accumulate in the private treasury, wherein I have reason to think he had some months ago ten lacs of rupees. This habit of adding to the privy purse would be immaterial if it did not lead to His Highness curtailing the stipend of his relatives and dependents by paying them in a base coin and induce him having recourse to many other contrivances for adding to his store, unworthy of his station. This conduct has injured his public credit so materially that last year he could not raise 10,000 rupees and I had difficulty in procuring bankers in Poona to consent to a loan of 50,000 Rs. at 18 per cent per annum although the British Government was to be a security for the payment. But while he deprives his private domestics of the full amount of their wages he permits them to become the vehicle of petitions for favors, for which he knows they are paid. His chief amusement is business, yet for an hour or so occasionally in the afternoon he likes to see his horses exercised, of which he is a great admirer, and is flattered at being thought a good judge. His greatest pleasure, however, seems to be in managing the affairs of jageerdars and others. He is extremely desirous of introducing every where the same regulations which prevail in his government and it would certainly be an advantage to themselves, and their subjects were they to adopt them, but in wishing to impose on them these rules, he seems altogether to forget the repugnance he himself feels at any sort of interference in his own concerns.

Whenever His Highness is desirous of adopting a measure which he conceives will be unpopular he endeavours to obtain in writing the assent of the Resident, in order that he may silence clamor, and evade the greater part of the odium; while he is as anxious to secure to himself exclusively the merit on any act of grace. Two or three instances may suffice to shew the Raja's mode of proceeding on such occasions. Having determined on curtailing his expences in the year 1823, owing to expected defalcations of revenue, he consulted me on the subject, but finding that I was averse to any general reduction of the salary of all public servants, he advised them to consent to a temporary reduction of 25 per cent of their pay for that year, which he persuaded me was

a voluntary proposal of their own, but I was surprised to learn from several of them, that I was given up by His Highness as the author of this scheme of finance, and such was the impression abroad before I could remove it, that the Commissioner thought it necessary to remind me that the pay of the Rissala of auxiliary horse was especially under our guarantee which was the first intimation I had of any idea of reducing it, and which I really believe never was contemplated. Instead of annual receipts for 1823-24 being less than those of 1822-23 they somewhat exceeded them, but no restitution of pay was made to the public servants. On this occasion, however, an agreement was made with some portion of the auxiliary horse, which giving them the advantage of a promise of permanent service, removed them from under our protection, and in less than a year the Raja thought it necessary to make a reduction of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from all his own servants including that portion of the Rissala which had withdrawn itself from the British guarantee. In these arrangements he wished to have my concurrence and required me to reply in writing to an official note he addressed to me at the time on the subject of his reductions. I discussed the question with the minister Vittul Punt and wholly disapproved of the system which I saw His Highness was adopting, and said that I could not give the scheme my approval. In replying to the note (I said) I should be obliged to distinctly avow my sentiments and it was, therefore, better as he knew them, but did not intend to adopt them, that he should act without requiring an official reply. I had hitherto never been compelled to oppose any of His Highness's opinions so directly, and he calculated, I imagine on my general demeanour that I should not venture to avow my dissent so plainly as I did. I refrained from giving the answer for twelve days but at length on being pressed I was compelled to do so in a way which so highly incensed the Raja that he asserted on the spur of the moment if he was not at liberty to manage his own concerns, he would resign them entirely to the British Government again. This of course did not reach my ears officially, and in the course of a few days, His Highness and I had mutual explanation and parted good friends. A very recent incident of resentment on account of my interference is shown in the Phultun case, in which His Highness has displayed a disposition to revenge for which I was not wholly prepared to give him credit. I allude to the fact of

my interfering to protect the private property of the Dowagers. This feature of his character is closely connected with his desire of extending his revenue, his authority, and his connexions.

The first was particularly exhibited shortly after my arrival when he frequently wished me to apply for remuneration for the losses he conceives his revenues have suffered from abolishing the duties on grain, nor was he satisfied, till I carried the treaty to him and shewed him that the adoption of the same rules for the customs, as those in the British territories, formed a condition of it. Some time afterwards having discovered some errors in the schedule of the treaty, he took advantage of one to claim remuneration for the Pergunna of Phultun assigned to Jan Row Naig, losing sight altogether of another article which excluded the whole of the jageers from His Highness's territory. Dissatisfied, however, with the explanation, he took advantage of my temporary absence from Satara, to procure an official note to be sent direct to the Commissioner on the subject, which ended in a new and correct schedule being framed and sent to His Highness. In the late dispute, regarding the Phultun case, the Raja has to my astonishment made one or two efforts to obtain possession of the surunjam for himself, and even within three days of my quitting Satara, Bala Sahib evidently at the instance of His Highness, begged me to intercede with the Honorable the Governor to procure a remuneration of 50,000 rupees annually for the customs on the top of the Western Ghats according (as he stated) to treaty, whereas in the treaty no specific sum is stipulated for but a fair remuneration is promised, when the British Government occupies the custom houses, which up to the present period are still in the hands of the Raja's Government. I have pointed out these instances of His Highness's avidity, not to detract from him, but as characteristics of his disposition.

The next feature to which I shall allude to is his tendency to encroach on the jageerdars, which is evidenced in his jealousy of our interference and their even communicating with the Resident. No stronger proof of this feeling need be adduced than the whole of his conduct throughout the Phultun case; his application to the Honorable the Governor through me in August last, and more especially the very last note he gave into his hands

when at Satara, proposing among other things, that the guarantee of their estates, and of the protection of the jageerdars by the British Government, should cease on the death of the present incumbents. It would be impertinent in me to point out the certain consequences of a measure so likely to be acceded to, for if it is by no means improbable if we withdrew our control from the Raja, and left him at liberty to encroach on the rights of his jageerdars, that a union of these chiefs would soon take place which might make His Highness's seat on his throne extremely unpleasant and precarious.

In making a confidential report of this nature I venture to state rumors which I have not the means of proving satisfactorily, that His Highness feels much disposed to open a private communication with the Raja of Kolapoor, that he has heard with complacency and satisfaction, the notion of accepting the fealty of the Putwurdhan chiefs, who have been disappointed in their expectations of being allowed to adopt heirs by the British Government and that he secretly encouraged the importunities made by Amabjee Row Ghargia, and the Moodhole Ghorephora Raja to be introduced to him. These reports are very likely to be true. They need, however, create no suspicion in the mind of the Honorable the Governor in Council as to the fidelity and attachment of the present Raja who, I most sincerely believe, has too much good sense ever to be induced to engage directly or indirectly at war with the Government.

He is, however, extremely tenacious of his prerogative and will every day more and more resent our control. He has lately been flattered by those around him into erroneous estimate of his own importance and he has already evinced strong inclinations to extend his connexions beyond the limits prescribed by the treaty. It will be fortunate perhaps for His Highness himself if events afford this government an early opportunity to give him timely warning of the danger he is incurring, or I should be very apprehensive that he may succeed in involving himself in secret communications with those who may at some future period provoke our resentment, when it is likely a development of a system of intrigue with His Highness may take place which will altogether shake our confidence and may lead to his ultimate ruin.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Marratta Government as Exhibited to Ram Raja A. D. 1760

		4,85,000	By revenues of Wace	4,00,000
To expence of garison of 26 Forts				
To the Great Officers of Government				
Pundit Row Shastry	12,000		Kurar	4,00,000
Punt Prittee Nidhee	1,00,000		Sattara	2,00,000
Punt Pradhan	75,000		Kuttow	2,00,000
Punt Amatia	40,000		Man	3,00,000
Punt Suchiew	40,000		Mirch	2,00,000
Nyadish	20,000		Part of Punnala	1,02,000
Dubeer	20,000		of Malkapoor	1,00,000
Muntree	20,000		of Jowlee	1,00,000
Civil Establishiment Raja Adma	50,000	3,27,000	of Raypur	1,00,000
Furnevees	25,000		of Indapoor	1,00,000
Clerks	50,000	1,25,000	of Beejapoor	1,00,000

Military Chiefs Senaputty Dabarry and Gykwar	20,000	1 Punt Pritee Nidhee	3,20,000
Sur Lubhakar	20,000	2 Gykwar	3,00,000
Senakurty	20,000	3 Mokassa of Candeish Gungtarry & Bala Ghaut	2,80,000
Sahib Soobah Nagpoor	20,000		9,00,000
Sundries	20,000		
Permanent Military Estab- lishment	5,000 men	N. B. The upper part of the original of this document is torn of and the items 1:2:3 have been sup- plied from another account to make up the sum total of receipts. The disbursements, however, are entire and furnish the items of 4,00,000 for the privy purse which is the purpose for which the document is quoted.	
Body Guard (Sillidars)			
Household troops (Barjar khass)			
Mahally Sibundy etc., etc.			
Enams and Charities			
Privy purse			
Total Expenditure	29,87,000		
Contigent Expences	2,15,000		
Grand Total	32,02,000	Total Receipts	32,00,000

**(Signed) John Briggs
Resident**

Partition Treaty of Sattara dated 26th April 1731.

Art. 1st. The following Treaty drawn up between His Majesty Abba Sahib (Sahoo Raja) and Sumbajee Raja has been agreed to on the part of the latter as hereafter specified.

Art. 2nd. I agree to receive my share of the dominions, that part of the country lying to the southwards and eastwards of the Krishna river below its junction with the Warna, including all forts and posts within the said boundary, and all claims whatsoever.

Art. 3rd. The whole of the country lying south of the junction of the two rivers aforesaid as far as the junction of the Toombudra and Krishna including all the forts and posts within the said boundary.

Art. 4th. The whole of the tract lying south of the fort of Viziadroog.

Art. 5th. I agree to cede the fort of Rutnagahirry and to receive the fort of Copal in lieu thereof and I will destroy the fort of Wurgaum according to agreement.

Art. 6th. I agree to relinquish the posts in the district of Mirch and Beejapoor now in my possession.

Art. 7th. I agree to receive the half of any conquests to be made between the Toombudra and Rameshwar.

Art. 8th. I agree to attack any state which shall engage in war against Sattara and in like manner the Raja of Sattara agrees to make war with any State attacking this home.

Art. 9th. I agree to entertain no person discarded from the service of the Raja of Sattara nor he to entertain any person discarded by me.

The above nine Articles being stipulated and mutually agreed on between both parties shall in no wise be departed from in the least on any part.

Memorandum—Amount of cash payable to His Highness, the Raja of Sattara A. D. 1749.

Payable by Punt Pradhan	Rs. 3,20,900
„ „ Punt Prithee Nidhee	1,50,000
„ „ Fatty Sing Bhosla	00,000*
„ „ Baptee Bala Ghaut etc.	33,000
By Ramajee Naig Wakry mamlatdar of Wace and Sattara as per separate statement	45,000
Surdesmooky Purenda as per separate statement	16,500
By Apajee Hanumant for the town of Sattara	4,700
By Kesurkur Sur Desmooky of several districts	30,460
By Nyadish on account of certain Babtee Mahals	13,500
Total Receipts	6,14,060

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No. 28, Secret information of the Raja's intrigues with the Court of Kolhapur. There were also secret communications with the Portuguese at Goa. More information awaited. The Resident in full knowledge of the Raja's intrigues and of the persons involved who aided and abated him in his designs. (William Wilson to Elphistone).

27th January 1827

My dear Sir,

Every day develops some new instance of the Raja's intriguing designs. It is now eight days since I heard that a confidential messenger had just left Sattara with instructions to proceed to Chinchnee where Nagoo Deo Rao (the Swamey's agent whom I have already named to you) has been staying lately and to proceed in company with him to Colapoor there to continue the manner of an interview between the two Rajas, and to return for final orders from Sattara. It was hinted that a relay of horses would be the speediest and safest mode of bringing the Colapoor Raja here, and that the shorter the time employed the better. There is a communication also on foot with some Frenchmen and Por-

* No figure was given

tugese at Goa, whose assistance is expected to be of great service in the projected scenes which already involve as actors—the Nepa-unkur Vencut Rao Gorepuray—the Chinchnee Putwurdhun, the Swamey and the Raja of Colapoor. The Swamee, I believe, is the most active of the conspirators, and has, perhaps, the safest means of corresponding undiscovered with distant places, his emissaries are already dispatched to Hyderabad and Goa, and it has been proposed to apply at Gwalior but I believe no correspondence has been fairly commenced yet with that quarter. Chintamun Rao also is as yet unconnected with the business, but whether from want of zeal or that he has not been consulted I am not informed. Your instructions are proper to the Raja in these circumstances and are too explicit for him to doubt. . . And I have only delayed it till now, expressing to His Highness the dangerous and foolish course he is pursuing in consequence of the urgent request of my intelligences that I will wait a little while till their information can be made more complete. There has long existed a secret compact of amity between the two Rajas, and it is nearly two years since the said Nagoo Deorao commenced his private nocturnal visits to the Raja; and it is conjectured, the enterprize which the last three months have brought to our knowledge, has been under consideration during the whole period; nor should we now ever have heard what is going on but for the admission to the Raja's Council of one who is a connection of the Swamy's agent, and recommended by him to the Raja as a trustworthy person. Such, however, he is not being weak enough to entrust his secrets out of friendship to the very man who is our chief spy about the Raja—he is the very person at whose house the nightly councils were held at which the Raja—Nursoo—Nagoo Dev Rao and young Dinker Rao Moitey attended; as I notified to you two months ago—his uncle also, an old man, is the person charged with the continuance of the meeting, who is mentioned at the beginning of this letter, as ordered to hasten to Chinchnee and there join himself with Nagoo Deorao for the more effective execution of the purpose intended. The Raja has no grounds as yet to suspect that I am informed of his proceedings, and certainly has no suspicion of those through whom my information is obtained. H. H. has not yet committed himself in any so open an act as that I can charge him with violation of the treaty, and there is yet time to prevent his entangling himself. My own feeling is to

act without any delay upon your instruction; but I am too strenuously requested to postpone for a few days at least the disclosure which I meditate, and the reasons advanced are too weighty, that I have thought it advisable to transmit to you an account of what has reached me, and for the present to wait, as I am assured that a disclosure at this moment would involve in suspicion those whom it is most expedient not to discredit with the Raja; and by waiting a short while many important matters may be fully made known which are now only darkly unfolding themselves. In the meantime I have only to take care that no meeting actually takes place, and if I am not favored with any communication from you, I shall conclude that you do not disapprove what I propose and shall think it my duty to apprise you of any new report I may receive. I have written twice to Mr Baber on the departure of the messenger for Chinehnee and Colapoor. The "Francis" at Goa has demanded large sums of money and 40,000 oxen before he can promise to bring effectual aid into the field (meidan)! and "Shanta doorga deoi" a place between Sawunt Waree and Goa is mentioned as the rendezvous at which the Sattara messenger is to meet and consult with the Frenchman. I do not know where Shanta doorga deoi may be but the name of the messenger is Balajee Naique Phatuck, and he is an old man of seventy years. Bala Saheb and the young Dewan are privy to all that is passing but for fear of the Raja are necessarily quiet. The Dewan is in our interest—but is young and timid. Bala Saheb is encamped near the town apart. Since his affair with the Queen he has not been allowed to reside in his old quarters. The Raja, however, is outwardly kind to him as ever.

No. 29. Elphinstone could not believe that the Raja was involved in the intrigues described. He felt the Raja would never head a conspiracy which aimed to overthrow the British Government. He agreed that the Raja be warned of his intrigues but that only on definite and reliable information. (M. Elphinstone to Mr Simson. Act. Resdt., Satara)

Bombay 19th February 1827

My dear Simson,

It is so contrary to the Raja's interest in every shape to involve himself in such intrigue as have been described to you and

his character agrees so ill with the adoption of so desperate a scheme that I cannot persuade myself of the accuracy of your information. Intrigues I doubt not are carrying on but I should suppose them of a much more confined nature and intended for less hostile purposes than those you mention. The Raja I doubt not would like to make himself of consequence by keeping up communications with all his neighbours but that he should head a conspiracy to attack the English is impossible. Even the lowest sort of intrigues I have alluded to will, however, be pernicious in their effects and ought, therefore, to be checked. If you find on consideration that you have perfectly sound grounds for believing in those minor intrigues you should speak in an open and friendly way regarding them to the Raja, explaining that you do not apprehend any bad motive but that so much stress is laid on the point in the treaty that you think it indispensable to put the Raja on his guard against the first approach of a proceeding so full of danger. You must of course take care to make no communication as long as it is likely to betray your informant but the moment that danger is over you cannot be too explicit. It will both afford you light and check the Raja in his imprudent courses. If you have known a doubt of your facts you should not speak at all nor indulge your suspicion.

No. 30. Information on the supposed intrigues between Kolhapur and Satara. Copy of a paper of intelligence received from Kolhapur on the intrigues between the two Rajas. A description of other personalities implicated in the intrigues. Suspicious contacts between the Raja of Kolhapur and Native Courts. (From W. Newnham, Chief Secretary, Bombay, to Assistant in charge of the Residency, Satara)

26th February 1826

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Political Agent at Dharwar. dated 11th instant, forwarding translate of an Akbar from Colapoor relative to the supposed intrigues between the Rajas of Colapoor and Sattara.

Though there does not seem the smallest ground for suspecting the Raja of Sattara of designs hostile to the British Government, and although the state of India renders any general

confirmation of the nature alluded to in the news writer's letter altogether impossible, it is yet consistent with probability that the Raja of Sattara may have been indiscreet enough to in some secret communication with the Raja of Colapoor, without sufficiently advert^{ing} to the inconsistency of such intercourse (however innocent in itself) with his engagement with the British Government; there appears to be sufficient reason for suspecting some such indiscretion to justify an intimation to His Highness of the report; and, as the fact of such a suspicion being entertained will probably soon reach the Raja, it seems expedient to inform him of the full extent without delay.

The Governor in Council, therefore, requests that you will communicate to the Raja of Sattara the report of his secret intercourse with the Raja of Colapoor, with an observation that though in itself of little moment it is a serious occurrence as constituting a departure from a very important article of the treaty; that you had, therefore, lost no time in apprizing His Highness of the reports that you had received to enable His Highness to put a stop to any attempt that he might be making to bring about such an intercourse, and also to give him an opportunity of cordially explaining the circumstances that had led to these rumours. If the Raja should deny the facts, you are authorized to state, as far as it is consistent, the grounds of your belief in them and request His Highness to explain them.

With regard to the intrigues of the Raja of Colapoor the account given by the News writer both of his wishes and of the impositions practised on him by his attendants seem entirely consistent with his character and circumstances.

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Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copy of a paper of intelligence from our vaquel in attendance on the Kolapoor Raja giving results of his inquiries into the intrigues supposed to be carrying on between the Kolapoor and Sattara Rajas the latter parts where — of would seem to give some color to the information received from the Acting Resident at Sattara, of a confederacy between the Mahrattas and Hindoostan powers for purposes hostile to the British interests,

If there is any foundation for all these reports, it is not improbable in the Kolapoor Raja's present attitude, that something will shortly transpire which will afford some clue to the actual fact and precise object of these plottings and to the parties engaged therein.

From the agent I mentioned in my letter dated the 13th instant I had despatched to Vingorla and Goa, we may expect accounts very shortly, which will still further develop these alleged conspiracies

Confidential by the P. A.

**Translate from Ukbar from the Vaquel at Kolapoor
dated the 12th February 1827.**

I beg leave to report that the Venayeth-nama of the 29th ultimo reached me on the 2nd instant. In that order I was referred for information regarding the contemplated interview between their Highnesses the Raja of Sattara and Kolapoor, to the order of the 23rd January (I was) further informed that the intelligence had since reached Huzzoor that His Highness, the Sattara Raja, had deputed confidential agents to Hyderabad, Gwalior, Nagpoor and Goa and calling upon me to report whether such plotting had taken place at Kolapoor and whether any information I have been able to obtain from private sources on this subject.

The Kolapoor Maharaj having come to an understanding with the Sattara Maharaj proposed during his journey to Jejoory and return from Poona to effect a meeting with the latter under pretext that His Highness wished to offer Dursheera to the Sree Cooldevata at Sattara but as it was stipulated when the Rahdary was sent from the Huzzoor, that His Highness should not proceed to or near Sattara. His Highness had not an opportunity of going there during his journey to Jijoory. When the Honorable the Governor Sahib Bauder's Khass Sewary proposed going to Sattara His Highness the Kolapoor Raja, being very desirous of coming intimated his desire to perform the Cooldevata Dwishur Samaraden etc., at Sattara and said that in consequence of a difference of opinion regarding certain ceremonies between the Sattara Raja and himself they had not been on friendly terms for several years but that as His Highness was now so near, it was not proper that he should

be guilty of any uncourteous behaviour, that he had very unexpectedly come to Poona, that it was desirable that both should reside together in the same place, and that if His Honor would be pleased to permit him now he would go and take the Sree Cool Devethy Durshen, and effect a reconciliation, so that they may act towards each other as became them for the future. He further said that they were both at variance during the time of the Peshwa, that both had now succeeded in making the Company's Sircar the friend that it was therefore, very desirable that this good understanding should be followed up by a reconciliation between them both and that they should be friends in the future. His Highness having represented all this, set about endeavouring to effect a meeting before however the Honorable the Governor left Poona for Sattara an order was issued that the Kolapoor Raja's sewary was not to accompany either to Sattara or Rhemutpoor, and a yadee to that effect was given to the vaquel in consequence the Raja did not follow. Had he, however, been permitted to accompany His Highness determined to prefer these requests, and to obtain permission to see the Sattara Raja, this opportunity was not offered. After the Honorable the Governor's return to Poona His Highness made up his mind not to renew the request but determined, to pass through Sattara. On his return to his capital, during the Honorable the Governor's stay at Poona, His Highness preferred several requests to the Honorable the Governor who, however, complied with none of them. His Highness said that under the belief that all the requests that he had made were fair, and that his bundobust would be made accordingly he left nothing untried to obtain permission to visit Poona, that he had been very much misrepresented by some evil disposed persons, in consequence of which, the Honorable the Governor, was not pleased to comply with his wishes and appeared to be displeased with His Highness, that being fully convinced that although his requests were *Vaujeek* the Honorable the Governor did not think proper to comply with them. His Highness became very much annoyed and said that he did not wish to retain his Dowlut. He offered to follow the Honorable the Governor to Poona, said, that the time he would remain there was indifferent to himself, and that he was resolved to have bundobust made of his affairs. In the meantime the Honorable the Governor left Poona for Bombay and preparatory to his departure gave positive orders that

His Highness do not follow, that His Highness having incurred much unnecessary expences, was obliged to return to his capital again. . . Various attempts were made to bring about a clandestine meeting, during His Highness's journey back. About this time the Sattara Raja's sewary went out to his district under the pretext of making jummabundy. Mr Simson, the Resident, and myself were acquainted with these proceedings, the knowledge whereof made them pause, whether they should or should not accompolish their object. The consequence was the time passed on without its having been effected. His Highness afterwards sent repeated messages to the Sattara Raja that he was very desirous of an interview, that they were not strangers to each other, that being one of the House and one Doulet, it was, therefore, not proper that both should be at variance, that he was mokhtigar of his own raj, that treaties had been contracted between them during the time of their ancestors, that it was very desirable that they should be renewed, and that both live on friendly terms, that every person should respect them the more, that he had great deal to tell him in person when he would be of the same opinion and requesting him to suggest the most effectual measure for effecting a clandestine meeting which His Highness would do all in his power to accompolish, that he would enter his territory if he would invent a cause and proposed that the Raja of Sattara should give out that he was going to make the jummabundy and come in the direction of the Warna river, which he himself would give out that he was going to apprehend some robbers in the Panalaghud Talook, and take the opportunity of going to the Warna river, after which they would both device the way and means to meet each other in private. His Highness further suggested to the Sattara Raja not to bring Mr Simson, the Resident with him when he came to find some excuse for dispensing with his attendance by which alone their desire could be accomplished, that when he himself was going to Poona, Mr. Simson was with him, that although he much wished to do so he could not at that time devise means to see the Sattara Raja, that if the Resident accompanies the Sewary he will become acquainted with their proceedings and that this will cause a rupture between both. That for these reasons he did not encourage the Resident at his interview and by appearing in a sulky mood got him to return—that as this measure induced the Resident to go back at that time, no other had been attempted, and in conse-

quence no Resident had accompanied him. If the interview could not be effected by these means the Sattara Raja had better give out that it was his desire to go to the Sree Jothee Linga Durshan and come in the direction when as the place was near to him he would come and see him in private – it could not be discovered or he should express his desire to go to the Sree Durshan at Toolzapoor, and set out in that direction, and that the Kolapoor Raja would express the same desire and go the same way to try all these means to bring about a meeting, and if all these were not practicable, to suggest the most likely manner. He further requested the Sattara Raja not to be apprehensive on any account and told him that he could only come to a thorough understanding by seeing each other. The Sattara Raja send replies as follows. *That he understood all the proposals made by His Highness that he would consider maturely upon the whole in his private apartment and send replies to each:* It appears that nothing as yet is determined on. I understand the following individuals were employed upon these occasions.

By the Sattara Raja Ballajee Naick Puttancur and Nagoo Deio Row of Chincheenee. In my inquiries regarding these persons agreeably to orders from Huzzoor, I heard that Nagoo Deio Row resides at Wee in Sattara Illakha, that he came some time ago to see the Sree Swamiji Sunkeswer, and remained with him for a few days – that after leaving him he took up his residence at Chincheenee in the Sattara Raja's territory, that he came thence to Kolapoor, had a private interview with the Raja and went away again, that the Kolapoor Raja's sister Chinama Bae Uckha, who resides in the palace, holds surinjam in Puttan and Sattara Raja's territory that several of her nisbuts came from Puttan on these affairs in private and had several private interviews with the Maharaja, that Ballajee Naick Puttancur came to Chemina Bae Uckha, remained at the Raja's Palace and it is said had private audiences of the Maharaja, and I have not, however, been able to obtain authentic intelligence on these subjects, when I do I will report.

I have also heard that the following persons have been concerned in these affairs.

Abba Sahib Cuddum – this person is in the confidence of and residing with the Sattara Raja – his brother Kristna Row Cuddum

has been serving the Colapoor Raja with 10 or 15 suwars for the last year. Messages are passing to and from these two Cuddums.

Baubajee Juggadalla his family reside at Mussoor in the Sattara Illakha he is in the confidence of the Kolapoor Raja. His Highness was returning from Poona this Juggadalla remained in the rear to effect this business (supposed of an interview) and came up afterwards. He was absent for several days. Messages have passed through him.

Yellojee Row and Dhincur Row Mohetai. These two individuals are very intimate with the Sattara Raja and hold villages in surinjam there. They are related to Ragojee Row Bhoslai, the Nagpoor Raja and went and resided there for some time. They returned thence to Sattara. Dhincur Row Mohetai is now with the Sattara Raja and Yellojee Row with the Kolapoor Raja. His Highness promised to grant him surinjam and retain him and messages have passed through him.

Ramchunder Row, Raja of Mallegaum, in the Sattara territory at present with the Colapoor Raja, His Highness as likewise promised to grant him surinjam and retain him and has employed him on messages.

The Colapoor Raja has occasional private interviews with those individuals. I understand, however, that no particular day has yet been fixed upon for the meeting.

Regarding that part of the order that relates to the mission of the deputies by the Raja of Sattara to Hyderabad etc., etc., etc., I beg to state that in obedience to orders, I made the most private inquiries among the Kaureycauren and Chillera people by Hickmut. They gave me the following information. That no person in Kolapoor has yet had any information of the Raja of Sattara's plotting and deputation of missions, that they have not yet heard anything on these subjects from any person here, but that the Kolapoor Raja is reported to have sent people to various places or the purpose, as it is supposed, of plotting—that intelligence is being sent by those persons from time to time, and that people have been sent for those purposes as follows.

From Hindoostan 7 or 8 pindarees came to Kolapoor Raja and have been in his service since last year, 4 or 5 of them have been sent out by the Raja who went and returned and had private

audience with the Raja. It is said that they went to Ragojee Row Bhoslai's Nagpoorcur's son Appa Sahib Bhoslai who is with the Seiks at Lahore.

Also to Dowlut Row Scinde at Gwalior and some Frenchmen in his service.

To Syajeet Row Gwaickwad at Baroda.

To Bhartpoor and Brehmavarth (Bajee Row's residence). The pindaries are said to have stated that plotting for a war was made at all these places, that they had made bundoobust for obtaining authentic, private intelligence and had come in advance. These pindaries are in the Hoozoor paga. I, therefore, directed the Jemadar Nursing Bhan and jassood Kristnajee to go and make inquiries of the Hindoostan pindaries employed in the Hoozoor paga to go there in disguise with a mare, say that she refuses her food and ask their opinion of the nature of her disease and for such remedy as they recommend to be given, that during the course of their conversation to endeavour to discover the place from whence they came, and after hearing their answers, to try and find out their Dowl, and to observe particularly the manner in which they replied to the queries put to them. They accordingly took the mare and questioned them as directed. They offered medicine for the horse and said that they belong to the Bhopal Illakha where their people held villages etc., in surinjam, that latterly the General Sahib there commenced mustering the Pindarees sent for them for that purpose, that as their jamadar was here, they had come down for that purpose of taking him with them and that they had arrived only 5 or 6 days ago. The jamadar said that they were 4 pindarees all well mounted, that they talked the Hindoostanee dialect, that two of them were moosulmans and two Rajputs and that each of them had Roodra-cheka munny tied round his neck.

Four Arabs have proceeded to Golconda from this place, there are several christians of Goa in his His Highness's service here, 3 or 4 of whom have been sent to Goa. Lutehmen Sing, who came here some time from Bhurtpoor, has been sent to Hindoostan by the Maharaja who gave him money for his expences.

This is all the information I have been able to obtain regarding the plotting. The Kaureycaura people here say that the Moolmundeley people took advantage of the Maharaja's hoshar and beo-shay moments and make proposals to His Highness as they think proper, when people are sent to various parts, as described above, for the purpose of bringing intelligence. The people sent out report the results of their missions just as they find His Highness in the humour to receive or credit them. It is very doubtful, indeed, whether they go to their destination at all as it is suspected, that they loiter on the way and offer themselves to obtain money for their expenses or presents from the Raja, and give false statements merely to induce the belief that they had performed the duties assigned to them. These are only surmises, but it is a fact that some *Bega mussalut* is carrying on but the Maharaja is very cautious as there is no calculating the consequences that might ensue if a discovery is made. No person can dare to tell the Maharaja that these plottings, or his proceedings, are not proper. They, therefore, humour His Highness; and give stories just to suit the whim of the moment. No person will, however, give any information of these proceedings. They know that if they become public something must take place, and that if their names are mentioned, they will be ruined. They, therefore, keep everything a secret.

I have thus made all the enquiries I could have done consistently with the secrecy necessary to be observed and will continue to do so from others, and report the result from time to time—this is a very important affair. It rests with the Political Agent to make separate inquiries at Kolapoor.

In obedience to the orders to write an urzee to the Resident at Sattara regarding the interview contemplated by the two Maharajs I beg to state that I did so on a former occasion. The urzee miscarried and as I am doubtful from the character of the Mootsuddees etc., employed in the Durbar and the miscarriage of the first attempt I have not done so on this occasion. I did not even mention this intelligence to Mr Wathen—it is a serious and important affair and I have only reported to the Political Agent. The people here will not be able to trace this correspondence because I do not trust such despatches to the Dak jassoods, but send them direct to the Mootsuddy at Herved for immediate

transmission to the Hoozoor. I have torn the order of the 29th January as ordered.

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No. 31. The Sattara Raja informed of British knowledge of his intrigues with the Raja of Kolhapur. The Raja denied any intrigue with Kolhapur, and assured the Resident of his complete dependence on the British Government. The Resident was suspicious of the Raja's conduct but was sure of no positive danger. (From W. Simson, Acting Resident, Sattara to W. Newnham)

1st March 1827

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 26th instant with its enclosures from the Political Agent at Dharwar, which reached me by express yesterday morning. The Raja being engaged in celebrating the marriage of a mere relative, I could not without offence interrupt the ceremonies by the communication I was instructed to make, but in a long conversation, which I held with His Highness today, I laid open without reserve the reports of his secret intercourse with the Kolapoor Raja, the truth of which His Highness disclaimed at once in the most positive terms assuring me that the difference which had so long existed between his own branch of the family and that of Kolapoor was as far as even from reconciliation and that he had not the smallest desire to cultivate better understanding with that Prince. His Highness proceeded with much earnestness to declare that the counsels given for his adoption by Captain Grant had been, and should continue to be, the rule of his conduct in the affairs of his kingdom and government, that he had told the Honorable the Governor at his late visit to Sattara that his whole dependence and trust was reposed in His Excellency's kind disposition towards him, and that he had recognised no protectors nor connexions but the British Government, and that rather than be suspected of designs inimical to the Power which fastened (?) him he would abandon his government and throw himself utterly on their friendship. His Highness alluded also to his former replies on this subject when the rumours of a contemplated interview with the Kolapoor Raja was mentioned to him in November last at Nimb.

I mentioned some of the persons named in the reports which had gone abroad viz , Balajee Naie Phatuck, and the two Cuddums

said to be concerned in the conduct of the alleged intercourse. His Highness affirmed he knew no such person as the former; that one Cuddum had quitted his service last year and obtained, he understood, employment at Kolapoor, but that he no longer looked on him as one of his own people. I expressed satisfaction at His Highness's unqualified denial of the facts I was instructed to notice but that as these reports were received in Bombay from several quarters, and it was necessary they should be accounted for in some way, on which His Highness, without the least previous hint from me, began an enumeration of certain persons connected with himself, who he said, were dispersed in various directions, not with any commission from himself but in pursuit of their own fortunes. Yellajee Mohite who had repaired to Kolapoor, having left the Sattara Court, in some displeasure at the great attention paid to his younger brother Dinkur Row Mohitay. Chimnajee Sirkar and Rowjee Mahadig, both His Highness's relations, one of whom was going on his own affairs to Kotra in the Konkan and the other had already taken service with the Nipankur; but these persons His Highness said, it was not unlikely he might be traduced; for they had sometimes objected to him his unnatural regard for the English etc., his adoption of their warlike attitude in preference to that of the Marratta, and had been answered that His Highness no longer desired the service of men who were disaffected to his present system. His Highness named these, he said, to shew that many people might be influenced to misrepresent his acts; and in order to put me on my guard how I credited vague reports. Bala Sahib Bhosla was present and hinted that His Highness had connexions also at Nagpoor on which the Raja instantly resumed saying that the relations were scattered every where at Colapoor and Nagpoor in Scindia's camp, at the Guicowar's Court with Chintamun Row and among all the Putwurdhans, as well as Nipankur; but for their own ends, and for no purpose of his. I took occasion to mention my knowledge that Venkut Row Raja Goreparay had an interview with His Highness and that I was particularly instructed by the Honorable the Governor to explain on this head, that though the present instance might be unimportant yet the fact of such forbidden intercourse was a departure from a most material article of the treaty which required the strictest observance. His Highness replied by reciting the article of the treaty alluded to, and without denying the fact of the interview remarked

that I knew very well the ground on which Vencut Row still delayed his departure, and that not two days ago His Highness had sent him a message importing that the Patelker affair, a pretence of which he had remained so long at Koomtee would not be furthered by his protracted stay and recommending his immediate return home, and that he should leave some confidential agent to perfect his business about which he was so anxious. His Highness then incited (?) me to go and see the new married couple; and as I took leave drew me aside and begged that I would request the Honorable the Governor to pay no regard to any reports about his acts, that were not supported by some documentary evidence.

Mr Baber has forwarded prematurely, at least the result of enquiries suggested by me in confidence, merely to ascertain the truth of certain reports, which, whatever my own impression, required strong confirmation before they are officially submitted to Government. While soliciting information reserve would have been misplaced but in importing to the Political Agent the rumours I received I did not suppose I was supplying matter for an official notice, which, if necessary at all was due from myself. The Raja may be disposed towards intrigue, and he certainly has those about him who find their account in filling his mind with dangerous ideas of his own importance; but His Highness has also enough of timidity and natural circumspection effectually to restraint him from the minutest movement of hostility until such preparations shall have been commenced as cannot be concealed. And there need be no apprehension that all indications of this character, as well as all communications with Native States, or foreigners will not be promptly ascertained and duly reported to Government before they can advance so far as to threaten the general tranquility.

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No. 32. The Raja of Sattara blames the Brahmins and Baji Row for intrigues against him. The Resident blamed the Raja's evil councillors. The Raja intimated certain marriages for the first time to the Resident. He was requested to withhold them till the consent of the Governor was given. His Highness was deeply disappointed. Besides, the Resident had lately pointed out mismanagement in his administration. (From W. Simson to M. Elphinstone)

कै. ज. म. द. वा. पोतवार;

ग्रंथ संवत्

4th March 1827

My dear Sir,

The Raja sent for me again yesterday, and again protested his entire devotion to our government. He referred to former conversations with yourself concerning his gratitude to the English and the hatred borne him by the brahmins and persons of Bajee Rao's caste for his attachment to the English—these persons, he said would gladly assist in involving him in schemes which they concert to his ruin; but they should not succeed—he knew well what he owed the British, and was anxious only to secure their good will. . . I said that you were most unwilling to believe anything to H. H's prejudice, and that his greatest enemies were neither Bajee Rao's people, now at a distance, but evil councillors who inhabited his own palace. This observation did not seem welcome; and His Highness digressed to his family jewels, of which he detailed the history, adding that all his finest jewels of the House of Sattara had been taken by Bajee Rao and his people, who left only the refuse—he was, he said, to change those he had at present for others more valuable declaring that, for all the opinion I had expressed, that he was worth a large sum of money the fact was that he could not purchase new jewels without pledging the old ones—he mentioned the subject, he said, lest I should hear abroad that he was selling his family jewels and might put some strange imputation on the fact. The Raja then mentioned two marriages to be concluded—one between the younger son of the old Dewan Vittul Punt, and the daughter of the Colapoor Dewan—the other between children of the Sattara and Colapoor chitness; this was the first intimation I had heard from the Raja of these marriages although I had private intelligence of the negotiations and I believe the Raja. The Raja would not have mentioned these to me at all had not Ballajee Punt Natho hinted that such connections, entered into without the knowledge of the government, might subject H. H. to suspicion. I replied on this point that looking to the report, I communicated the other day, and the unfavourable opinion entertained of the Colapoor Raja, I rather recommended that the nuptials should be suspended for the present. H. H. said that would be inconvenient as the young Colapoor chitnis had arrived at Sattara, and the marriage was appointed for the next day, but on this, I said that I hoped H. H. would postpone the

ceremonies for a few days, as I considered it necessary to inform you and take your sentiments on the subject. This observation of mine seemed to be no better relished..but the Raja was bound to have communicated the circumstances before, and deserves to suffer if anything unpleasant shall be the consequence. Here was still another something more unpleasant which the Raja said he could not mention at once to disburden his mind of all feeling of displeasure and he handed me some sharp remonstrance of my own which I thought called for by late instances of neglect and almost flagitious conduct in the Raja's administration. I had previously told Bala Saheb, who visited me on the subject, that it was with great reluctance I took any step that would prove unpleasant to H. H. but that it was necessary to enforce my own representation to which, I was sorry to say, neither himself nor the Raja paid proper attention and this I repeated to the Raja offering to withdraw the offensive communication if H. H. would promise that the object of them should be secured. I had heard in the morning that the Raja had already severely censured his karkoons and I had, therefore, little hesitation in taking back my notes but the fact is that the public servants have already arrived at a great height of corruption and justice is miserably delayed and prevented, and I am very doubtful how far I am expected to interpose for the relief..the slightest interference is generally resented and tenaciously opposed..*

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No. 33. The Raja must not think he is distrusted. Only a slight warning be administered and nothing be said of his hostile designs till the most authentic information was forthcoming. (From M. Elphinstone to W. Simson).

* The Raja then showed the Resident a paper mentioning the names of certain people at his Court who had received bribes from one Dandekar, agent to Gharapuray and that was as far back as seven years ago. It was concerning the village of Koomtee. Bala Sahib approached the Resident regarding the marriage and said " the chitnis will be disgraced if the marriage is stopped." The Resident said it was their fault in not informing him. Now they will have to wait for Mr. Elphinstone's reply. " I am by no means sure that you will approve even my saying anything on the subject of the matrimonial connections..between the chief persons of the two royal Houses.. The list of bribes, I shall tell His Highness, need not be published .."

6th March 1827

My dear Simson,

I received your private letter two days ago but your official one has just reached me. I rather infer from your private letter that you mentioned the reports as if by instructions from Bombay. This may perhaps give them more importance than it seems desirable to attach to them. At any rate the Raja must now be impressed with the importance we attach to his observance of this part of the treaty and it is, therefore, very expedient that you should endeavour to remove any idea he may entertain that he is distrusted. I would not, therefore, say anything more about these supposed intrigues and if you hear again of intercourse with foreign States or Chiefs I think the best way would be to mention it at once as a thing incorrect in itself but not in the least connected with any hostile designs. I would not, however, be in any hurry to notice any reports unless they had a great appearance of authenticity. Above all do not let the Raja think you distrust him or have any worst thoughts of him then you avow or he will distrust you in his turn and think you have some design against him.

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No. 34. Elphinstone is convinced that if the Raja was involved in intrigues they were of the most trifling nature. He feared that Mr. Simson had unnecessarily formed too bad an opinion of the Raja. (From M. Elphinstone to Mr. Simson).

7th March 1827

My dear Simson,

Though I wrote you yesterday I do not lose a moment in answering your letter about the marriages of the chitnawes to which I think you should not object. I am more firmly persuaded than ever that any intrigues the Raja had are of the most trifling nature. His exposure of his practices with Gorepuray was intended probably to explain his intercourse with that Chief when he found it interpreted more seriously. I do not think we should interfere with the administration of justice etc., unless in case of most serious disorders and then only by quiet advice. I think you have taken up too bad an opinion of the Raja and his people and (I am) afraid that from one thing to another it will soon come to distrust and enmity between you and the Raja which will prevent things even going. . (*the words are missing*).

No. 35. Reports of the Raja's intrigues continue. Though the Raja appears implicated it was not necessary to face him which the facts at the moment. (From W. Wilson, Resident at Sattara to M. Elphinstone).

9th March 1827

My dear Sir,

I am this moment favored with your letter of the 6th and 7th instant and I am happy to know that in accepting the Chitnees invitation this morning to his child's marriage I only anticipated your pleasure. So also with respect to your apprehensions lest distrust arising between the Residency and the Raja—hitherto I have always said both to the Raja and his minister that Government had great confidence in him, and he believed me for he has lately expressed his surprise at learning that I took any pains at all to know what he might be about—he is himself too well aware of his own culpability not to fear that he is suspected and I wish I could feel that I did him or his people any injustice in the opinion I entertained of them—but a few days will be sufficient to lull them; and I shall endeavour to keep the others from his knowledge, though the conviction proves daily stronger—the Jamdar went last night alone to the house of Phatcuk (often named already) and took away some papers which had been left there by Nagoo Dev Rao (a person whose character. B. P. Nathoo, told me was not unknown to you)—the Jamdar goes off to Poona today, to attend the marriage of Ballajee Punt's child there—with what other view I cannot say yet. I shall learn in time, and communicate as I have—the degree of credence due to my reports being not so much a matter for my consideration, as the blame that might attach to the suppression of intelligence the importance of which I cannot judge of. With papers of intelligence, even, I will trouble you as seldom as I can, and, certainly I will communicate nothing to any other. Sir Lionel Smith is here just now—an express is just starting and I beg to subscribe myself most faithfully and obediently. *

* Wilson to Simson on 21st May 1827: "The Raja's lending his elephant to Raste does not signify (intrigue), the latter is one of those Chiefs with whom he is entitled to communicate which I believe is the case... I have not yet examined the papers about Phaltan but fear you have gone too far into it..."

No. 36. The Raja requested to refer to the British Government all questions regarding the Jagirdars. The Raja was deeply offended but agreed to abide by the Resident's suggestion in the future. The difference was due the debts of the Jath State to His Highness. (From W. Simson to W. Newnham).

16th April 1827

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letters of the 10th and 15th February, the former giving cover to an original letter dated January 25th addressed to His Highness the Raja by the Honorable the Governor, in reply to the propositions suggested by His Highness relative to his interference with the Jageerdars generally, the latter relating more particularly to the complaints preferred by the Raja against the Punt Suchew and Ram Rao Duffle, forwarded with my letter of the 21st January.

(Continued)

In a letter of 22nd March 1827 Elphinstone is informed that the Chief Secretary, who it appears had heard from Mr, Baber, wrote that the Raja be apprised of his conspiracy with the Raja of Kolhapur.

“ The Raja stoutly denied his concern in any intrigue of the kind and has positively disclaimed all knowledge of his messenger Ballajee Naique Phatnak. I thought sufficient to apprise the Raja that the information received was likely to lead to further discoveries unless the project in hand were speedily relinquished — ”

He distinctly spoke of the Swamy and the part he played but suppressed the name of Nagoo Dev Rao “ lest I should betray a greater knowledge of facts than the Raja could have denied or have accounted for without suspicion of my informants; and now that this matter has once been broke to him I can inform the Raja by degrees how much of his designs are discovered...” The Resident was very unhappy to learn that Mr. Baber had set afoot in Sattara the rumours of a plot. He feels he would be blamed for the rumour and lose credit with the Raja. He even feared that his informants might be betrayed. “ I still hope the Raja may hit upon some other mode of accounting for my intelligence than the true one...” When he confronted the Raja with the Kolapur affair he looked guilty and gave an explanation so rapidly as if it had been prepared for such an occasion. Ballajee was present for the marriage and assured the Raja that the Resident knew no more than what he had disclosed. Ballajee was sure that the Raja was in touch with Chitman Roa and Goa, “ but the Raja's timidity will always, like his good angel, step in to rescue him from involvement in any really dangerous intrigue...” The Resident's main informant was one Abba Joshee. “ Under the head of extra secret service money for last month I have inserted an article of 20 Rs, given by me to Abba Joshee who was my sole carkoon as well as intelligencer for three months and

I immediately on the arrival of the Honorable the Governor's letter delivered it to the Raja who received and read it in silence; replying to me if any thing required explanation, the whole of it was perfectly clear, and that he should act as the government recommended — that he had stated his own wishes, which did not seem to coincide with the sentiments of the Honorable the Governor and that he had, therefore, only to refer the jageerdars to the Resident, a course which he should adopt in all future occasions where they might be concerned. His Highness appeared hurt at the failure of his object; and on my requesting to know what he proposed owing with respect to Ram Rao Duffle replied “anything you recommend”. I begged that His Highness would propose such measures as he considered most convenient, my part being only to take care that the faith of my Government was kept with the Jageerdars. I represented that the jageer being part of his own dominions deserved to engage the solicitude of His Highness, who must know best how to consult for its advantage, as also to conciliate the good feelings of the jageerdars which it was desirable should suffer no interruption. It was said by His Highness, that is a point worthy of consideration, “I tell you it will be better served by your making the necessary arrangements; if, however, it be intended to support my authority you should leave the direction to me”. I urged the Duffle's incompetency to superintend the various departments of the samsthan, the maintainance of the horse for His Highness, suitable provision for his family and his relations, the payment of debts, the tranquillity and prosperity of the Duffle districts, and, particularly the administration of justice and police matters which His Highness from his own experience and good sense, was eminently qualified to provide for. His Highness replied laying his hand on his own book of regulations, “this is my mode of administration. I have none other”. I expressed my conviction that the regulations were admirable constituted; “well”, said His Highness, “you have my sentiments; now do as you please. I have advanced Duffle 40,000 Rs. which I know I shall never recover; although, on the assurance of Captain Grant and Colonel Briggs, that I should

proved himself an excellent aid—he received a gratuity to that amount, last year...” This man was regarded as untrustworthy by Grant and had left a word with Briggs “not to patronize him too much openly”.

realise what was due to me, I have undertaken roads, aqueducts etc., etc., ". I stated that the payments of debts must be a primary object in the arrangement to be made and that His Highness was entitled, certainly, to as much consideration as any other of the creditors and that it would be a pity to stop the progress of public works by which his country was likely to benefit so much – but where said His Highness, " am I to find money for these works ". Perceiving that His Highness was getting irritated I took my leave proposing to resume the subject at a more favorable opportunity.

The complaints against the Punt Suchew having been sent back by me to the Raja and again remanded for my decision from the Durbar, it was necessary something should be done on them, and having already made considerable progress in their investigation when I had the honor to receive instructions of government communicated in your letter of the 15th February. I hastened to complete my inquiries and gave orders on each with the assistance and concurrence of the vakeel and an additional carcoon sent for the purpose by the Punt to whom the decisions were officially communicated in a memorandum, of which a copy was sent to the Durbar, and a translation accompanies this report. for information of Government; nor is it hoped there will appear a greater degree of interference than was called for by the peculiar circumstances under which the complaints were forced upon my notice.*

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No. 37. It was known that the Raja of Kolhapur was enlisting horsemen in the territory of the Raja of Sattara. (From W. Newham to the Resident at Sattara).

* The remaining portion of the letter deals with the Daffle affairs in Jath State. A memorandum of 30 articles was drawn up by the Sattara Court under which the Raja was to take over the responsibility of managing the Jath Jagirs till all the debts were paid. The Resident was anxious to discuss and change, were necessary, some articles of the memorandum. The Raja was opposed to any changes. The Resident reported the matter to the Government with his suggestions, and awaited instructions. " Nothing is yet done " wrote the Resident, " that cannot be safely repaired, and I have only therefore, to enquire within the remarks I made upon the Raja's memorandum.. "

15th August 1827

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th instant regarding the Raja of Kolapur's having deputed persons to enlist horsemen in the territories of the Raja of Sattara.

Any proof of the Raja of Kolhapur's enlisting men should be looked for and the result reported to Government, but no communication to the Raja of Sattara seems necessary in the present stage of the affair.

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No. 38. The Kolhapur Raja to be warned and requested to disband the forces collected. Failure to do so would mean war with the British Government. (From W. Newnham to the Resident, Hyderabad).

7th September 1827

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you that in consequence of the hostile proceedings of the Raja of Kolhapur, the Governor in Council has authorized the Officer Commanding in the Doab to concentrate his force and proceed to attack the Raja in the event of his not complying with the Political Agent's last demand, so as to reduce or disperse the Kolapur troops before the rivers have fallen to that degree to admit of their flying over and devastating the country.

The Raja has for some time past been engaged in levying troops from all quarters and least success on his part would no doubt draw to his standard as good a predatory army as can now be assembeled in the Deccan, it becomes, therefore, of more importance that his career should be cut short as soon as possible.

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No. 39. Elphinstone's letter to the Raja on his departure from Bombay 1827, expressing deep regard and good wishes for the Raja's future welfare. (From W. Clerk, Acting Persian Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Colonel A. Robertson, Resident at Sattara).

29th October 1827

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Highness's letter of the 29th suffer together with the genealogical

tree of your Highness's family with which your Highness has had the goodness to present me and I beg to return Your Highness my best thanks for this mark of your kindness and to assure you that I have always set a high value on your testimony of Your Highness's remembrance.

The expressions of friendship contained in Your Highness's letter afforded me much gratification and although I shall again have the honor of addressing Your Highness I cannot miss this opportunity of assuring you that I shall always take great interest in Your Highness's welfare. *

The approbation which Your Highness is pleased to express on the occasion of the late meeting of the Natives of Bombay afforded me much pleasure, but the distinguished manner in which I have heard that Your Highness received the resolutions and the honor intended towards me by Your Highness in affording your powerful support to our institution are proof of Your Highness's friendship which I shall always remember.

The friendly terms in which Your Highness writes of Colonel Robertson gave me great satisfaction and I beg to assure Your Highness that it was from a confidence in his established character that gentleman was selected for his present duty.

I request Your Highness to favor me at all times with accounts of your health and welfare.

Subscription to the Elphinstone Professorship by His Highness the Raja of Sattara and family

Hig Highness the Maharaja	
Chandoree Rupees	17,000
Bala Sahib Senaputty	2,000
Muzafurjung	1,000
	20,000
Appa Saib Maharaj	5,000
or Bombay currency	
	25,000

* On the 1st November 1827 Mr. Newnham, Chief Secretary to the Government, informs Lt. Col. A. Robertson, Resident at Sattara "the succession of Major General Sir John Malcolm to the office of Governor of Bombay and its Dependencies." A copy of the Proclamation was attached.

No. 40. Copy of a letter from Major General Sir John Malcolm G. C. B. to His Highness the Raja of Satara.

6th November 1827

A. C.

The Honorable the Court of Directors having appointed me to the office of the Governor of Bombay and its Dependencies it affords me pleasure to announce to Your Highness my having assumed charge of this important trust on the 1st of this month.

I cannot on this occasion content myself with conveying to Your Highness my assurance of high consideration and respect. I deem it to be an especial part of my duty to avail myself of this early opportunity to assure Your Highness of my earnest desire to maintain the present close and intimate connexion between the two States upon the same footing that has hitherto existed and to add that I learn with feeling of cordial approbation Your Highness's desire to confirm and perpetuate the existing alliance by cultivating at all times a cordial and confidential intercourse with the British Representative at Your Highness's Court.

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No. 41. Settlement by the Raja of Sattara of the affairs of the State of Jath; and the very creditable manner in which His Highness discharged his undertaking. (From A. Robertson, Resident, to W. Newnham)

24th November 1827

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to submit for the information of the Honorable the Governor a copy and translate of His Highness the Raja's proceedings in the settlement of the affairs of the Duffle Jagheer, the arrangement of which in consequence of the disorders and debts that had accumulated from the mismanagement of its Jagheerdar was last year assumed by His Highness, with the sanction of the British Government, as the only means by which to extricate Ram Row Dulfle from his difficulties, and to restore the prosperity of the large tract of the country which was suffering from his misrule.

The very particular account which His Highness affords of his proceedings render it unnecessary for me to enlarge thereon or

to point the attention of the Honorable the Governor, either to the very creditable manner in which he has discharged the duty which he found it necessary, both with reference to the interests of his own State and also of the Jagheerdar and his creditors and tenants to undertake; or to the moderation which is evident in all his measures for the recovery of his own dues, as particularly instanced in the arrangement made for the support, as well as for the present employment of the contingent; in the abandonment of all claims for interest on the debt due to his own government and even under this sacrifice in not stipulating for any priority in their discharge.

The whole of the settlement being concluded, the Honorable the Governor will perceive that His Highness immediately restored the Jagheerdar to as much authority as he could confer, consistently with the necessity of guarding against the mismanagement likely again to arise from trusting entirely to his care and control. At the same time His Highness by Proclamation made known to all, not only the cause of his interference, but also the circumstances and the time which would limit its duration, therefore leaving no room to misinterpret the object which it was the desire, both of the British Government and His Highness to attain for a time superceding Ram Row in the control and management of his affairs.

Ram Row Duffie was at first full of fears and apprehensions as to what might be the result of His Highness's assuming charge of his estates, but I believe he is now, as he ought to be, fully sensible of the advantages that will accrue to him from this measure, and lend his aid, towards the success of all arrangements with the greatest good will and to the utmost of his power.

I may take this occasion to mention that I feel assured His Highness in the arrangement which he is about to make of the affairs of Fultun* will, in all cases act not only with the same moderation in reference to the rights and dues of his own Government but will evince a similar regard to the interest of the Jagheerdar and his tenants and the claims of his creditors; and feeling this conviction, however much I may see cause to blame the contumacious conduct of Bujaba Naik which led to the attachment

* Phaltan affairs are mentioned in a letter of 3rd May 1828.

of his estate I cannot but deem it matter of great congratulations that it has led to a measure likely to be so eminently beneficial, not only to the chieftain, but to all concerned. In the hands of the sahookars and subject to all their charges and to the evil effects of their own mismanagement, Bujaba would never have hoped to have been otherwise than deeply involved in difficulties of the most serious nature. But now in the hands of His Highness who will either leave the interest altogether or charge it on the most moderate scale, while the jagheer is managed on principles calculated to promote its prosperity—and the claims of every creditor provided for. A few years will free him from every incumbrance. In the meantime, if by his conduct, he shall evince himself deserving of such confidence, I feel also assured, he will, by His Highness be restored to a great degree of authority in his jagheer, as has been conferred on Ram Row Duffe, which is as great as regards the security of the arrangements for his own benefit would permit; and greater in reality than Bujaba could ever hope to enjoy if he committed himself to sahookars, who for their own safety would hardly engage in his affairs—unless on such conditions as would leave him nothing of his authority but the home.

As in all he does, His Highness is desirous of meriting the confidence and approbation of the British Government; and as the proceedings now laid before the Honorable the Governor are eminently distinguished by all those circumstances which deserve recommendation and applause, I would most respectfully suggest that the Honorable the Governor may be pleased to gratify his Highness by acknowledging in a direct communication to His Highness the receipt of the report of his arrangement and express the high satisfaction which he has derived from observing the great moderation and judgment by which they are characterized and which confer as much honor on His Highness's Government as advantages on all interested.

This will be an appropriate and valued compliment, and it seems no more than is due in reference to the pains taken by His Highness to apprise the Honorable the Governor of all his proceedings. It will prove an encouragement also to His Highness to go in the same similar cases.

No. 42. The Raja suspected of secret communications with his Jagirdars, especially the Patwardhan family. Any meeting between the Jagirdars and the Raja to be discouraged. (From R. Money, Acting Political Secretary to the Government, to the Political Department)

30th November 1829

Sir,

In reference to the letter of Mr. Leggeyt dated the 19th instant requesting me to give the Honorable the Governor any information respecting the injunction which was issued by Mr. Wathen to Balla Sahib Rastia regarding his intercourse with the Raja of Sattarah I enclose a copy of memorandum addressed by that gentleman to Government and Mr. Elphinstone's minute thereon, the only paper in our office, relating to the personal intercourse between His Highness the Rajah of Sattarah and the Chiefs in the Deccan.

Memorandum from the Persian Secretary's Department to the Honorable the Governor's Camp below the Salpee Ghaut, November 9th 1826.

Several Chiefs having made applications to visit places situated in His Highness's the Raja of Sattara's country, and some having applied for permission to pay their respects personally to His Highness, the Persian Secretary respectfully requests the orders of the Honorable the Governor on this point.

Other information leads to a supposition that there has been of late some secret communication between His Highness and the Putwurdhans etc., thro' a person of the name of Deorowjee who is said to be in the habit of carrying messages between the parties.

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List of Chief's who have applied to visit the Raja

Ambojee Ghatgey; Venkutrao Rajeg Ghorpurey; the Moodholkur; Govindrao Nana Chinchneekur applied merely to visit certain sacred places in the Sattara country, but it is supposed with the idea of meeting His Highness the Raja.

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Minute by Mountstuart Elphinstone

Without reference to the supposed intrigues, and adherence to the policy first prescribed regarding the Raja, as well as

apprehension that the intercourse with other chiefs may unsettle the excellent habits which the Raja at present observes suggest resolution that all applications for introduction to the Raja, except in peculiar cases, should be refused at once and all applications to enter his territory referred to the Resident who should discourage them when the motive is frivolous and obtain the Raja's consent when there is an adequate reason.

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No. 43. The Agent to the Sirdars informed of the Raja's secret communications with the Jagirdars. But no immediate danger. It was decided to remove restrictions on communications between the Raja and the Jagirdars. (From C. Norris, Chief Secretary, to the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan)

Sir,

I am directed to transmit...a letter from the Acting Persian Secretary dated 30th November together with a memorandum and proceedings held thereon in November 1826 regarding a supposed secret communication at that time between His Highness the Raja of Sattara and the Putwurdhuns.

In forwarding these documents the Governor in Council directs me to observe that there appears, at present, no danger of the political intrigues, which some years ago, might justly have been apprehended, and no danger of unsettling the Raja's good habits which time has confirmed; under these circumstances the Governor in Council has resolved that the prohibition against communications between the Raja of Sattara and the Jageerdars be removed, being of opinion, that an amicable intercourse between the Raja and the Jageerdars should be fully permitted though perhaps not encouraged, and that the parties should be left to themselves, which may, the Governor in Council is inclined to hope, prevent many disputes and promote friendly intercourse between those who often share in the same lands and live or occasionally stay in the same towns.

An instance of this nature happened lately at Wae while the Raja of Sattara was at that place Balla Sahib Rastia refrained from visiting him. Balla Sahib stated to the Honorable the Governor that he felt that his conduct must have given offence but that the prohibition was imperative. He, at the same time

expressed an anxiety, that it should be removed as he felt convinced that he could settle many disputes now referred to the British Government.

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No. 44. Peter Lodwick as Resident at Sattara. (From P. Lodwick to C. Norris)

18th January 1832

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that I arrived at Sattara yesterday and placed myself in communication with His Highness the Raja of Sattara as the Political Agent on the part of Government.

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No. 45. The Resident informs Government of the Raja's request to visit Kolhapur and his endeavour to discourage him from going. (From P. Lodwick to C. Norris).

12th October 1832

Sir,

I have to request you will do me the honor of bringing to the notice of the Right Honorable the Governor that during many of my interviews with His Highness the Raja of Sattara he has much expressed anxiety to visit Colapoor, but from being acquainted with the sentiments of the Honorable Board, as contained in your despatch No. 411 dated 15th March 1832 paragraph 11, I have given no encouragement and rather endeavoured to dissuade His Highness from pressing the subject.

In my last interview with the Raja on the 10th instant he requested me so urgently to be permitted to communicate with the Colapoor Government on the subject of a visit to a particular temple at Colapoor, assuring me that although he should be gratified by visiting the Colapoorkur, it was not the principal object, that I consented to submit the request to the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor.

From private information I have reason to suppose the Colapoor Raja is not desirous of the honor of a visit, but believing the Raja of Sattara to have no improper object in view, I have been induced to submit the request that a communication between

the States might be allowed and the result to depend upon a mutual wish for the meeting being expressed by each Raja through the Political authorities to Government.

Should the Colapoor Raja decline bringing the subject to the notice of the Principal Collector of Darwar, I beg leave to suggest that no permission on the part of the British Government to visit Kolapoor be granted, the present object being to request the His Highness the Raja of Sattara may be gratified by permission to send a Vakeel to Kolapoor for the purpose of arranging the preliminaries of a future visit, if agreeable to Kolapoor, and sanctioned by the British Government.*

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No. 46. The Raja wrote letters to the authorities in London. He was assured that his rights and interests were safeguarded. The Raja represented his case to the Governor. But was advised to present his case through the Resident to the Governor and through him to the Court of Directors. The Raja expressed to abide by the decision of Mr. Elphinstone as final. The Raja also tried to explain his interpretation of the treaty. (From P. Lodwick to C. Norris).

3rd July 1835

Sir,

I have had the honor of receiving your letter of April 25th 1835 accompanying an extract from the Honorable Court of Director's despatch of September 26th 1834 together with three letters from H. H. the Raja of Sattara for the purpose of being returned.

In communicating the substance of the Honorable the Court's letter to H. H. the Raja as directed, I explained most fully the motives which had decided the return of his letters addressed to individuals in Europe adding the assurance given by the Honorable Court that His Highness may confidently rely upon his rights and interests always having the utmost consideration, and at the same time leaving him under no restraint with respect to private correspondence.

* The Resident again reported on the 4th January 1833 that the Raja of Satara again expressed a wish to send a wakil to Udaypur for religious purposes. The Raja told the Resident that such a request had been formerly granted. The Resident wrote to the Government requesting permission.

The Raja having about the period adverted to pay a visit of ceremony to the Right Honorable the Governor on his arrival in the country took the opportunity of a private interview to express his full sense of the Honorable Court's consideration and stated the particular articles of the Treaty of 1819 on which there appeared to exist a difference of interpretation between the local British Government and himself.

It was then decided that the several cases in point should be submitted to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council through the Resident and eventually to the ultimate consideration of the Honorable the Court of Directors.

This arrangement could not fail of proving most satisfactory to His Highness, who in adverting to the letter addressed to the Honorable M. Elphinstone being returned, took the opportunity of expressing his confidence in that enlightened statesman who had framed the treaty which conferred his sovereignty and who must, therefore, be most competent to explain its intentions. His Highness added that should the Honorable Court be pleased to consult that Gentleman, his opinion would be conclusive and satisfactory, however, adverse to his own interests.

I proceed to give in detail the substance of His Highness's interpretation of the treaty as explained in several interviews and by numerous memoranda.

The Raja considers that the treaty of 1819 confers upon him and his heirs forever the full sovereignty, subject only to the guarantee of the British Government, or the six Jageerdars named in the schedule attached to the treaty. He considers that the sovereignty as securing the reversion of the whole estate, strictly considered surinjaum, to the Sattara Government, whether situated within or without the immediate boundary on the event of the lapse from default of the heirs or adoption and this question appears to be decided by para 22nd of the Honorable Court's letter of September 26th 1834 which states that: "In default of heirs by birth or adoption the obligation of our guarantee ceases and the jageers must lapse to the Raja".

In the event of adoption on the part of the jageerdars, the Raja claims nuzerana for the whole jageer, this was not disputed in the case of the Punt Suchew in 1827 when it was clearly stated

by Mr Elphinstone, then Governor of Bombay, that no adoption could take place but by permission of the Raja as sovereign authority. The adoption was sanctioned and the nuzzerana paid to the Raja of Sattara.

The Raja conceives that his rights have been infringed in the resumption of the jageer of Shaik Meera Waekur in Khandeish.

The shedule attached to the Treaty of 1819, after enumerating the several purgunnas within the boundary made over to the Raja of Sattara, expressly names as part of the sovereignty, the jageer of Shaik Meera Waekur, as well as those of other five jageedars, and without making any reservation as to where such possessions may be situated.

This subject was brought to the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council and referred to the Supreme Government. The decision of which is subject to the final determination of the Honorable Court of Directors.

His Highness the Raja considers that if the jageer is resumed it must by the treaty be to his benefit. But he is most desirous that the jageer should be continued to Shaik Khan Mahamed son of Shaik Meera. The family as shown in the genealogical sketch attached to my report, is one of the oldest adherents of the Sattara State, and although the jageer is not strictly hereditary yet sannads have on every demise been granted from father to son from the time of Shawoo Raja.

There remains another claim on the part of the Raja which is not provided for in the treaty, and the only support on which it rests is a letter from the Honorable M. Elphinstone in which is the following sentence: "The modern jageers granted by the Paishwa will in most cases fall to Your Highness on the death of the present incumbents".

This evidently refers to small jageers within the bounderies of the Sattara State and it is to be regretted that the list of jageers which were to revert to the Raja on the death of the possessors mentioned in Mr Elphinstone's letter as having been given to His Highness by Captain Grant should neither be in his possession nor among the records of this Residency.

The Jageer village of Cowtallee, lately resumed by the British Government, is claimed by the Raja as coming strictly within the

meaning of Mr Elphinstone's letter above referred to, as it is within the limits of the Sattara State and the annual revenue amounts to about 2,000 rupees.

There are many small jageers of a similar description within the Raja's territory and as this is the first instance of one of them having lapsed, the decision on this case naturally involves the fate of others as they may fall by the decease of present encumbents, either to the British Government, or to the Raja of Sattara.

Having lately submitted this subject to the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, I have but to observe, that in the event of His Highness's claim not being admitted by that authority it would be highly gratifying to him to have a reference made upon the general question to the Honorable the Court of Directors.

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No. 47. The Raja congratulated on the very good management of his territories. (From W. H. Wathen, Chief Secretary to the Resident).

5th May 1836

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acquaint you that the superintendent of the Government stud has been instructed to send to Sattara to your care 2 colts and 4 fillies; and to request you that you will take the first favourable opportunity of presenting these animals to His Highness the Raja of Sattara in the name of the British Government, expressing at same time the most friendly feeling and compliments on the enlightened measures which His Highness is pursuing for the improvement of his territory.

The Governor in Council gladly avails himself of this opportunity to show a mark of attention to the Rajah, which His Highness no doubt will highly appreciate, as an encouragement to the public spirit he displays in constructing roads, bunds and other works of general utility.

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No. 48. Information of the Raja sending secretly an emissary to discuss the disputed articles of the treaty either to Calcutta or England. The Resident reports his interview with the Raja and

states his opinion in the matter. The Raja felt that the Governor had not put his appeal to the Court of Directors and hence he must move on his own in the matter. Statement of the interview with the Raja on 16th June 1836. (From P. Lodwick to J. P. Willoughby, Secretary to the Government of Bombay).

20th June 1836

Sir,

I have the honour to request you will bring to notice of Right Honorable the Governor in Council that having reason from private intelligence to suppose that His Highness the Raja had without communicating his intentions to the British Resident, either entered into engagements with or adopted preliminary steps to that end with a person named Syed Meer (a mussulman inhabitant of Bombay) to act as his accredited agent or vakeel in the settlement of certain disputed points of a political nature arising out of the several article of his Treaty with the British Government, that it was His Highness's intention to send this Vakeel either to Calcutta or England. I requested an interview with His Highness which took place on the evening of the 16th in presence of Appa Sahib Maraj and Balla Sahib Senaputtee.

The details of what passed I now submit to the consideration of Government together with the translation of a memorandum since given in by the Raja.

Altho' His Highness has occasionally hinted at the probability of being eventually obliged to resort to this measure I was not prepared for its immediate adoption, and especially after the assurance given by the Right Honourable the Governor, during the late interview at Nher, that the several questions at issue should be referred to the consideration of the Honorable Court of Directors without further delay.

It appears, however, that a copy of the treaty and every document relating to the claims of His Highness, supposed to be found upon the Treaty, have been given to Syed Meer, who had an interview with the Raja, but so far as I can ascertain he has not hitherto received any definite instructions or authority to act as agent for His Highness.

How far this conduct on the part of His Highness is in accordance with the 5th article of his Treaty, granted with the

territory by the British Government I am not prepared to give an opinion but submit the case for consideration. The motive for keeping me in ignorance of the transaction is against the evidence for being bound to consult the Resident on all occasions and to abide by his opinion. His Highness was well aware of the result of such a reference in the present case and that the consequence of acting in decided opposition to the Resident's opinion might be deemed a violation of the 2nd article of the Treaty.

In extenuation of the Raja's disingenuous conduct in the case now submitted to Government I may be allowed to observe that his feelings have been during four years, and particularly during the last year, in a state of increasing excitement respecting what he considered infringement of the Treaty from time to time on the part of the British Government, and these feelings being restrained by the prospect of a reply from the Hon'ble Court, acquired additional force, on ascertaining during the late interview with the Right Hon'ble the Governor, that no reference had hitherto been made to the Court of Directors, and from that moment he evidently resolved to appeal through an agent of his own. And this I believe he hinted to the Right Hon'ble the Governor during the interview and he certainly has a full conviction of having done so.

I hoped to be honoured with early instructions as to the line of conduct I am to adopt in consequence of the late breach of confidence on the part of His Highness. The first instance within my knowledge, as his intercourse with me had been carried on in perfect good faith and firm reliance on the friendship of the British Government.

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Substance of a conversation which took place at an interview with His Highness the Raja of Sattara, the evening of the 16th instant at the Palace. In the presence of His Highness, the British Resident, Appa Sahib Maharaj and Balla Sahib Senaputtee.

The conversation was introduced by the Resident noticing the reports in circulation, and his having been informed that His Highness had engaged a person, an inhabitant of Bombay, by name Syed Meer or Meer Sahib as his vakeel to be employed in obtaining his supposed rights over the estates of the Jageerdars,

that this had been effected secretly without any communication with the British Government.

The Resident put the question to His Highness as to the general truth or falsehood of this intelligence. In reply His Highness commenced by declaring that the subject to which this conversation referred had been a source of unhappiness to him for the past four years. That the late Governor had been promised on his visit of ceremony to refer the case. That the present Governor had given an assurance last year to the same effect but on His Highness, at the late private interview, in May last, requesting to be informed when a reply from the Court to representations forwarded last year by the Resident might be expected—he was told that no representation of the case had yet been made to the Hon'ble Court of Directors. His Highness became much agitated and declared his food was hateful to him and that he had sent for Syed Meer and that he had entrusted him with copies of the Treaty with the British Government and other documents relating thereto. His Highness denied having gone beyond this and declared that he had informed Syed Meer that nothing should be done in the affair until the approaching Dussera.

The Resident replied by pointing out the departure on the part of His Highness from the confidence in the British Government and its accredited Agent, who had hitherto directed all his acts, and further observed upon the assurance which the Right Hon'ble the Governor had given to His Highness at Malcolm Peyt that he would immediately address the Home Government on the subject at issue.

The Resident pointed out the friendly feeling towards him and his Government which both the Bombay Government and the Hon'ble Court had invariably expressed and acted upon—and ended by alluding to the 5th article of the treaty by which His Highness for himself “his heirs and successors engages to forbear from all intercourse or correspondence with all persons of whatever description who are not by the above articles rendered subject to His Highness's authority.

At the close of the interview His Highness became more calm and agreed to give a statement of what had taken place in

regard to Syed Meer in order the Resident may frame a report for the information of his Government.

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No. 49. A detailed statement of the conversation between His Highness the Raja of Sattara and the Resident Colonel P. Lodwick at a meetings at Satara in private Durbar. (Translation from the Maratha original).

23rd March 1837

Resident : I am directed by the Right Hon'ble the Governor to enquire whether you have called Dr. Milne and some person, his friend, only to come to visit you; or if you have requested them to assist you in drawing up your case ?

Maharaj : Yes ! I have called them on account of the friendship existing between me and Dr. Milne from the time of the Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone, the late Governor of Bombay; and I requested these gentlemen to consider my case and assist me in explaining it.

Resident : I am further directed to inform you that you will be deprived of your Government, as you have transgressed the 5th paragraph of your written engagement with the British India Company, where it says, that the Maharaj should never apply to any other person, on any secret business, without the Resident, and never to speak a single word to any other person. No obstruction is put in the way of the Maharaj and he should not communicate any sort of correspondence, until the case is decided on by the Home authority and by the Bengal Government; and also I am directed by the Governor to caution you, once more, against your doing so in future, and if this should occur, you will certainly be deprived of your Government. The dignity of both the Maharaj and Governor is of similar weight and importance, in regard to each other.

Maharaj : I beg permission to observe here, that the 5th paragraph does not prevent me from communicating confidentially with any European Gentleman; it only prevents intercourse with the Rajas of other States; and that this restriction was never made or mentioned in the time of Mr. Elphinstone, the late Governor of Bombay, when there was some sort of dispute between me and Major Briggs, while he was employed as Resident. Mr. Elphinstone then wrote me a letter, stating that there would be no objection, if

address myself to any other European gentleman, to enable me to make him understand clearly my case and wishes; and also, while Colonel Robertson was Resident, the Governor was accustomed to communicate in secret with the Maharaj, by taking him into a private room; and at the time of both the late Governor Mr. Elphinstone and Sir John Malcolm, the Maharaj used to communicate his correspondence with them through the hands of any person he chose; no restriction was then imposed by the 5th Paragraph; but, if it were to do so, I am surprised that the Para also does not prevent the Jahageerdars and Enamdars, who are bound in obedience to my authority from their communicating and corresponding and receiving answers direct from Government. Being so understood in my case, such should also be understood by the Governor in regard to them. I have requested the assistance of Dr. Milne to introduce my case to him; but it seems I am now bound on both sides, although you say no obstruction is thrown in the way of the Maharaj, and that all the ways are opened to the Maharaj, but which I cannot perceive; for I have no adequate means of explaining my case so as to present it in a clear light to Government; and this is now the construction you put on the 5th Para: and from the discreditable stile, in which you address me, I had better at once close this insulting course by poison and put an end to such a miserable existence, than live in such unwarrantable bondage.

Resident: Whatever correspondence the Maharaj may have to communicate, either to the Bengal Government or the Home authority, he may transmit it through the hand of the Governor as he is ready to do it.

Maharaj: For the investigation of the present case, two gentlemen and you were appointed; you explained it by reading before me the 4 written depositions from different persons; you interpreted to me in the Mahratta language, and asked whether they were perfectly understood. I requested you to give me the translations of them, and to see me again before the time of your returning to the Presidency – that then I would answer the matter, and if I found my Dewan guilty, I am authorised and competent to punish him. Notwithstanding I requested you to do this, you proceeded to the Presidency, and now say that you are ready to transmit whatever correspondence I may have to communicate.

Perhaps the Bengal or the Home authority will reprimand me for bringing this case not to their knowledge, – if such be the case, that there is no kind of restriction from them imposed on me by the Treaty framed between them and the Maharaj Sirkar, and there is a letter from them authorizing me to communicate by correspondence in any manner and through the hands of any European gentleman, and that they are ready, at all time, to receive it, of course, then, they will imagine that it was owing to some sort of improper conduct on the part of Maharaj that I had not brought the circumstances of my case to their knowledge; and what am I to answer, if they sanction any act of violence or injury against me. I, therefore, request you to furnish me with directions by which I am to be strictly bound and not to pass off and grant me the favor of giving me a written document not to speak a single word about the case to any person, until the case is determined or an answer is transmitted from Bengal and the Home authority; I require this for my satisfaction, and to declare that I may not appeal either to Bengal or to the Home Authority, which will enable me to furnish satisfactory reply and that for this reason I was prevented from writing. But you, without furnishing me with any, merely say, that I should remain silent, and ask, wherefore am I desirous to write to the Bengal and Home authority? I observe that it is to want their sanction of any improper act against me; but perhaps I had better resolve to go to Bengal and ask them, how such restrictions on me have been sanctioned, and then entrust my Government to their direction and be a dependent of their's, then to remain in such an unwarrantable state of restriction.

Resident: I know of no complaint of any kind to be urged by the Maharaj, but what he draws upon himself. We are the intimate friend of the Maharaj; and, at the instance of Government, we are ready to give him every assistance. Has the answer of the petition against you by Chinto Maheput Baba, Soobadar, been received or not?

Maharaj: That in regard to Govindrow's case I know not what may be your opinion, but in mine there is nothing to be stated to implicate him, as he is not guilty of any offence; but you rely upon the evidence of disreputable low people, and think their story is true, but I declare it to be impossible; for I have many proofs of the vicious conduct of these people, and of their being

totally unworthy of credit. Coosha is the servant of Govindrow and Babia was the husband of the sister of Coosha's wife, who was hanged, for robbery and sacrilege, in stealing an image of Shree Devi from my Palace at the time of my marriage, and whose case was investigated and he was proved guilty and executed. Coosha, is a relation of Babia; you have employed him, and given him a pecuniary present to reward the story he has told you against his master. It is in my hearing, and there is proof, that the Battalion of Sepoys were in the habit of going to Coosha's House for their amusement; and Coosha was heard, in speaking with his wife, in great lamentation for his relation Babia to say that he would have his revenge upon the Maharaj when opportunity occurred. The 5th paragraph, you say, only limited the Maharaj but not Baba Soobadar to write and receive an answer against Maharaj from the Home authority, although he is the subject and under the authority *only* of the Maharaj.

Resident: That this dispute would never have come to its present height, if Maharaj would have followed my advice not to appeal to the Home authority. What is the name of the person whom you have intended to send to England?

Maharaj: His name is Syad Meer; but why is this question so often asked of me and my Karbharee? You have never attempted to justify your conduct towards me; and to my several yads I know not when I am to receive a reply in explanation of such proceedings, as you have taken against me. I told you at that time that I would be obliged to appeal either to the Home authority or to the Bengal Government; this intention was also communicated to the Bombay Government but was not answered. I, therefore, thought it the best plan to appeal to the Home authority. But what am I to do now, according to your intrepertation and that of the Governor of Bombay, agreeably to the 5th Para? I have not communicated in sceret with any Raja but with my European friend; and in this, Government seem disposed to deprive me of any assistance in preparing my case.

Resident: Maharaj thinks he is a man of wisdom; but not withstanding, he should ask the opinion of either Appa Sahib, the Shenaputtee or Dinkurrow, otherwise the people will call him (Dewanna) a mad man.

Maharaj: I observe that no opinion was ever asked of any person when the treaty was framed between me and the British India Company; and it would not be for me to hear your disreputable attacks on me so often. This is not warranted by the treaty, nor was such imagined when the treaty was framed, nor was it contemplated that I should not consult with any European friend in whatever I might have to say.

For these five years the grounds of difference have existed between the two sircars; but no steps have been taken to assist the Maharaj Sircar on the part of the Bombay Government, who have never taken any of his affair into their consideration or rendered him any assistance to guide him. He is, therefore, under no sort of fear to appeal to the Home authority and see how far such conduct is to be justified.

I have often requested the Resident to pay particular attention to my conversation with him, as my affairs do not obtain any satisfaction by writing, but such may be effected by conference, and, therefore, I requested Dr. Milne to ask the permission of the Governor to visit me to learn the particulars of my situation and to explain it either to the Bombay, Bengal or the Home authority. I hope he may be accompanied by some European gentleman of good ability to revise my case; and I am induced to do so in order that by their means my case may be fully brought to light.

We know not, whether our communications have come to the notice of Government, as the Resident, at the instance of the present Government, has intimated us so frequently about the 5th Para of the treaty; and the Government seem not to wish to reply to any of our communications. But the 5th Para does not prevent me from obtaining a full hearing; and not to do so would be oppressive and arbitrary. I am sorry that I have this to repeat to the British Government.

I am much surprised at the opinion now expressed by the Resident; for some time ago when Sayd Meer, whom it was intended by me to send to the Home authority was mentioned by me, the Resident said, that it would be proper for the dignity of the Maharaj if there were appointed a European gentleman; I now in consequence of this advice, have requested my friend Dr Milne to prepare my case for me; but your language and opinion are now quite changed from the recommendation you formerly gave me.

At the time of this conference between His Highness the Maharaj, the Resident, and the two appointed gentlemen, which was held at the Resident's bungalow, the depositions from the two sepoys were read before the Maharaj by Colonel Ovans, when the Maharaj stated, that his people were told by these sepoys, that the Resident had told the Maharaj that he would be conveyed to Bengal. The Resident said that it is all a fabrication; but at the same time, the Maharaj observed to the Resident, before these Gentlemen, whether it was right to give credit to such men as the Resident now tells you that this statement is all a fabrication, and that these men's stories were not to be trusted; and why then are they trusted in the case of my minister Govindrow? and is it not as likely to be false in his case also? You may have heard of the impositions practised by the person calling himself Chuttoorsing and the trouble they occasioned. But you seem to admit the fabrication to be true in the case of Govindrow, and yet tell me, that as regards the Maharaj, they are false; but is a false witness to be trusted in any case? The Maharaj also noticed to the Resident that he will remember the circumstance of the removal of Ghooroo from Sattara, and the ill will which his removal created on the part of the Purdassees towards my minister Govindrow, whom they abused as the instigator for removing this priest, and that the present false statement against Govindrow is without doubt from motives of resentment against him. The Maharaj further observed that these sepoys were also enraged against Govindrow for the removal of their huts from the neighbourhood of his garden at Mahableshtar, and even threatened him that he should *one day*, have cause to repent this act, which had put them to so much inconvenience and expense.

With these two examples of the causes of dislike—nay of resentment towards the Dewan, Govindrow, is it reasonable to suppose, that he would have applied to the men of that very regiment who, on these occasions, had even dared to threaten him with their vengeance? And is it not more than probable, that they, becoming in the course of their amours (?) acquainted with the Dewan's servant through his wife's sister, had formed the plan of revenge which found a ready concurrence with both parties.

As to the annual Poshak of the Dusra, Maharaj was never accustomed, on any occasion, to ask the Resident; but this year

he did so and sent a *Poshak* with his man whom he desired to mention the circumstance and to inform the Governor; but the Governor, for three months, did not notice his visit, so that the Maharaj was obliged, on that account also, to apply for advice to an European Gentleman.

Resident : The Maharaj seems to distress and injure himself in every way.

Maharaj : It appears indeed, there is no use in any communications I have made as things remain without any kind of redress being afforded me; whether I address myself to you or to the Bombay Government, you hear and seem to understand only one side nor do you listen to any evidence which would show you distinctly the unwarrantable nature of your proceedings towards my authority and Government.

It is not becoming on the part of the English Government to distress the Maharaj Sircar, and that without considering that the British Government is not in a situation to be injured by anything that I or my people could do; for the British army is a thousand times more powerful than the Maharaj Sircar. Some time ago Mr. Warden, while he was at Poonah, as the Agent for the Bombay Government, who, understanding only one side, about some dispute concerning the boundary line of the Nera river, thought it was just to take his own way. This was an act of the Bombay Government contrary to any stipulation or engagement of the Maharaj Sircar, and left the Maharaj in suspense to know, how far this act was to be justified and induced him to appeal to the Home authority; and it appears from this conversation that this act would not be averted if Maharaj's plan of appealing to the Home authority were not to be adopted. I have often been reminded of this difference of view and opinion on my part by the British Government.

Our ancestors depending upon friendship existing at that time between His Highness the Shahoo Maharaj and the British India Company, never resorted to or joined with any other sovereign Prince; but now this difference of view regarding this Nera boundary appears to be the cause of the Maharaj's difficulties. Wherefore His Highness, the Maharaj, had better refrain from explaining any of his troubles, or to make his case known, in order to ascer-

tain, how far the conduct pursued towards him is to be justified that he may know what to do.

The present case is excited by turbulence and evil dispositions of disreputable and low persons, whose improper and vile proceedings have been proved by disreputable evidence (jabanees). His Highness, the Maharaj, therefore, hopes that the Resident will send this *yad* to the Bombay Government for transmission to the Bengal or the Home authority by translating it and stating fully its contents, and also to hand on with this translation the Maratha Original.

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No. 50. The Raja defends his conduct and that of his minister against the charges of corrupting a British Battalion. He complains against the two gentlemen, Mr. Ovans and Willoughby appointed to conduct inquiry. Reports of a threat by the Resident in the name of the Governor, Sir Robert Grant. (From the Raja of Sattara to the Government of Bombay).

23rd March 1837

After compliments

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 24th October last, stating that you had directed two gentlemen to proceed to Sattara for secret communication with me; after their arrival they wished me to visit them, instead, they should have waited on me; however, I went with my brother and minister to the Resident's bungalow, while he was there and where I found Mr. Willoughby and Colonel Ovans. The conversation took place before the Resident, Colonel Lodwick, on the case of my Dewan Govindrow Vittal, who was charged with having committed the act of corrupting the Battalion of the British India Company by an attempt on two of its garrison sepoys.

The Gentlemen read before me the English depositions of 4 different persons against the case of Govindrow. The meaning was explained to me by Mr. Ovans in the Hindoostanee language.

I spoke to them that you, relying upon the depositions of these disreputable and low persons think they are right; but I am confident that it is all false, and that my Dewan, Govindrow, never could have done such an act without my authority or

consent; and it is obvious and known to all the world, that I could not injure the powerful British Government by corrupting one Battalion, even if I had succeeded in any attempt to do so. I day by day hope to promote my friendship with the British Government and pray for its existence. I shall of course demand of them my rightful claims. but never act in any manner of which I need be ashamed, nor allow any of my ministers to do so; but they are incapable of it.

I submitted to these gentlemen several depositions of the misbehaviour and vicious character of the above alluded to four persons, for their satisfaction, which I had obtained at different times from several persons.

I stated to the said gentleman, that I would after I received the required translations of the four depositions, see them again and answer the matter, but since that time neither have they seen me, nor forwarded me the required translation but have proceeded to the Presidency, although I prepared the proofs and witness for the investigation.

I am consequently sorry, that these gentlemen may have perhaps misunderstood the case and misrepresented it to you, which might have induced you to report to the Home authority or the Bengal Government, when they would blame me for my not bringing the case to their knowledge. Of course I shall be prepared to give the whole particulars of this case. I, therefore, thought it the best plan to apply to some European gentlemen to assist me in preparing it to introduce it to you; and I applied to a friend of Mr. Elphinstone, the late Governor of Bombay, and requested him that after your permission was obtained, to come and see me, that my case might be fully and clearly explained.

But the Resident came to me, and stated, that he was directed by Sir Robert Grant, the Governor of Bombay, to hint to me, that I had applied to Dr Milne to take permission of the Governor to come to Sattara to draw up the case, which the Governor was not inclined to permit him to do, but was much displeased with me, observing, that as the 5th paragraph of my written engagement with the British Government states that H. H. Maharaj should not apply to any other person to assist in the communication of his correspondence but to communicate through the hand of the Resident. The Resident, therefore, at the instance

of the Governor, threatened or seem to intimidate me, that I shall be deprived of my government and I in fact am cutting off my arms and legs, as I thus transgressed the 5th Paragraph in question.

I have, therefore, sent a yad No. 195 to the Resident with those four depositions on the 23rd of March last, and requested him to submit it to you by translating it with full explanation of its contents and with the Maratha original which I hope you will take into your consideration; and I then trust that justice will be done to me on this representation of the injuries and indignities I have sustained.

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No. 51. Complaint from the Raja to the Court of Directors requesting the appointment of an independent tribunal and asking the Directors to call on the opinions of the past Residents and especially that of Mr. Elphinstone regarding his character and Government. Also requested permission to depute a representative from his Court to England. The Raja complains against the unsatisfactory inquiry conducted by the three gentlemen appointed by the Government of Bombay. (From the Raja of Satara to the Court of Directors).

23rd March 1837

After Compliments

The Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone stated everything in my favour and satisfied this Government and said all he had to say and concluded the treaty and obtained the signature thereon of the Supreme Government, which was done in the way of friendship and without any hesitation. I accepted it, and depended altogether on such friendship - besides numerous other such communications were received on the subject and accordingly this government has been managed. Having been so, for so long a time, objections have now been started by the Agent at Poona, in conjunction with unworthy people and enemies of this government; therefore nothing satisfactory can be expected and they have misrepresented the case to the European gentlemen lately employed, and brought the matter into dispute. Lieut. Colonel Lodwick, the Resident at the Court, has been informed of this dispute and the orders of the Bombay Government were received, on which the Resident says

that he cannot take cognizance of the case. But the usage of this government is well known to the Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone, Colonel Archibald Robertson and Captain J. Grant, to whom I beg leave to refer for the facts of the case. The late Governor, the Earl of Clare, and the Hon'ble Mr. Sutherland, the late Counsellor, gave a favourable opinion and accordingly letters were written by this government to the above three mentioned gentlemen in England, and your Hon'ble Court, it appears, wrote to the Bombay Government, on being informed of the truth to adhere to the practice followed; copy of which was forwarded by the Bombay Government to Colonel Lodwick, the present Resident, for the information of this Court, – notwithstanding this order he still starts new objections, which does not end – and the Bombay Government states that the whole affair has been written to the Home authorities and, when an answer is received, shall be duly communicated to the Court. Thus a year has elapsed; and the Resident some time states that the Government will write home on the subject. Meanwhile it was requested that the affair should be carried on as hitherto done, and to know also the probable time it would occupy to get an answer from England, to which no answer has been received; therefore there seems nothing satisfactory to my feelings or to guide my conduct. This Court evinces great interest in the management of the affairs of the country – just as would have been the case had it been under the British Government. The Hon'ble Mr. Elphinstone being aware of the conduct and fidelity of this government satisfied himself as to the propriety of entering into the treaty. This friendship and alliance does not seem to have received any attention ever since the departure of Colonel Robertson and the late Sir John Malcolm. This Court always continues to adhere to the former usage and practices, avoiding all causes of dispute or contention, maintaining our religious feelings and courting the friendship of all concerned to prevent blame being attached to this government and to avoiding stain on my character. I have no other views; but now the best of my exertions are of no avail. The English Government does not seem to take into its consideration the usual practices; and all the former well informed gentlemen are now gone and this Court has always depended on the British support and friendship, misinformed by their subordinate people create collision without taking into consideration the facts which are obvious – it starts objections without grounds and

such a disposition is daily increasing – thus it is a great loss to this Government. Therefore, it was intended to bring to the notice of your Hon'ble Court the whole affair thro' a person deputed to England for the purpose; but the Bombay Government listening or trusting to the misrepresentation of vicious and low people have brought the whole affair into a sad state and occasioned great expense and loss; but there misrepresentations it is hoped will not be noticed by your Hon'ble Court, and therefore this letter is written for your information. This Court has no friendship or intercourse with any other Princes in the country they are all indifferent to this State; the only friendship is with English Government. In consequence of these intrigues matters are in an unsettled state; and I am at a loss to conjecture what will be the result. Whatever the Government officers do and report, no investigation is made but acted on without weighing the subject – and the clearest evidence and truth of distinct facts are disregarded, which it is endless to state here; therefore no redress can in any shape be obtained. It is requested, that the Hon'ble Court will be pleased to order a deputation of two well informed gentlemen from England, acquainted with the manners and custom of this country, who will take interest in judging the facts of the difference and decide the case in the way they deem most proper; and to this effect instruction should be sent to the Supreme and Bombay Governments, when your Hon'ble Court will no doubt be satisfied as to the correct statement of this Court and of its religious adherence to its engagements.

The Bombay Government nominated three gentlemen here to inquire into the case; but it is to be regretted that they confined their views to a mere recital, and bestowed no consideration as to the practice hitherto pursued; however, this Court has confined itself to the wishes and orders of Government; but nothing can be effected without the deputation above solicited and there seems no other plan but the one proposed. Suffering under the distress occasioned me by improper conduct, and not aware in what difficulties I may still be involved, they would seem to have been owing to my announced intention of deputing a person from this Court to England and that my situation may be fully understood.

There, I have noticed these circumstances to you. I formerly used to communicate in a secret manner, but at present I have

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done it openly as my situation appeared to require it. I do not comprehend in what way Colonel Lodwick is in the habit of writing to Government and Government has not made any objection to his writing to them in the manner but attend to his writing. The Resident affords me no knowledge, and only makes known to me that the order from Government has arrived, what am I to do, who am never consulted, and have no one to interpret to me the true circumstances. No sooner did I request two gentlemen from Bombay to prepare and communicate the true circumstance of this state to the Government then Colonel Lodwick, the Resident, tells me, that you will deprive me of my government according to the 5th Para of the written agreement if I consult with any other person, consequently I gave a yad No. 195 to the Resident in order to send it to Bombay, Calcutta or to your Hon'ble Court which I have written in a full manner in order that it may be fully understood. I have enclosed a copy and translation to your Court; and I request you will take it into your consideration as early as practicable.

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No. 52. The Officer Commanding the Regiment at Satara to be alert. (From Lieut. Colonel Ovens to the Officer Commanding).

Secret and confidential

Express

Headquarter
Bombay 12th April 1837

Sir,

With reference to my letter in the Secret Department No. 450 under date the 13th instant I am directed by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to communicate to you that no orders whatever are to be issued on this occasion or any extra field establishment entertained until you receive instructions to this effect.

Secret and confidential communication to be made to the Officer Commanding the Regiment at Sattara alone – warning him to be on alert as also to furnish this information alluded to in the 2nd para of my letter.

Should any order involving any extra expense to Government be issued it should be immediately countermanded.

No. 53. Letter stating how the Resident refuses and delays in sending to the Government a detailed report of their meeting. The Raja was threatened he would bring destruction on himself if he insisted on sending the report to the Government. The Raja was firmly convinced of his innocence. Reference to earlier persecution by Mr. Simson. Dr. Milne was also convinced of the Raja's innocence. (From Dr. J. Milne to Major O. Flix, Secretary to the Government of Bombay.)

20th April 1837

My dear Major,

You may remember that I mentioned to you, some days ago, in reference to the case of the Raja of Sattara, that he had very judiciously and properly desired one of his people at a conference with the Resident (which the latter seemed to wish it should be private) to note down with care a detail of what might pass. This was done and a fair copy handed to the Resident for transmission with a letter to the address of Government from the Raja, that it might be distinctly seen he had nothing to conceal and only wished that all his proceedings and sentiments should be known. Such at least shows that he has benefited by the able tuition under which he was educated; and will it be believed that the élève* and protégé of Mr Elphinstone and the pupil of Captain Grant Duff is a likely person to do discredit to the pains taken with him by such men? He was taught to pursue an open and honorable course of which you have here a proof; and, as no better mode can be devised of arriving at the truth and of ascertaining the merits of a case, than a detail of the language, course of obversation and remark of the parties whose view of things may differ, the Raja displayed great good sense in directing, that the particulars of his intercourse, under present circumstances, should be placed on record.

That a British Resident should hesitate to promote, much less thwart, so obviously desirable a course of elucidating what might be obscure or doubtful, is to be regretted, because an attempt leaves our conduct open to unfavorable imputation, and destroys all confidence. It appears that the delay in the transmission of this paper was first ascribed to the time required to prepare a translation of so detailed a document, it was then stated

* Pupil

that there was no use of transmitting it—next, that if he did so, great part must be expunged signifying also, that the Raja was bringing destruction on himself. The Raja, however, conscious of his own rectitude was firm; he was then told, that the Resident had always been *his friend* and wished this representation to be withdrawn. He, the Raja, declined, observing, if Colonel Lodwick, had any hesitation in being the medium of transmission, to return it to him, with any remarks he might deem fit, and that he the Raja would send it direct to Government, as he was quite authorised to do.

It appears from this proces verbal, that the Court of Directors have signified to the Raja their readiness, at all times, to receive any communication from him, either direct or through the Government. and that Mr. Elphinstone intimated to him, that there was no objection to his requesting any gentleman to help him in framing any statement he might wish to prepare. It will not, therefore, I should think, appear quite creditable to our diplomatists, what so able and considerate a authority granted without the least hesitation; and, why should there be any reluctance to comply with so reasonable a request, if we are confident of the justice of the course, which we have pursued? But, I may as well mention to you, that I am told the Resident had rather he had not acted the part he has done; and, if I understood my informant rightly, who stated to me what he had from a relation of the Resident's own, that he seemed disposed to say, he had placed no faith in the accusers of the Raja's Dewan, but that he made his report and only obeyed orders.

The documentary detail above alluded to will be transmitted, either by the Resident, or the Raja himself, who, I would say, is inaccusable to any attempt of a low, dark or ignoble kind or of such a propensity.

If you would like to see the copy of the proces verbal now preparing to send to the Court of Directors through Mr. Elphinstone, as the Court has given their sanction to the Raja's adopting this course, having also sent a reply to Government, I will with pleasure send you the literal translation, put in proper language.

You may remember once mentioning to you the persecutions of Captain Simson. Yet in the face of these was he assailed again

and what has been the moral effect ? I would say, in the case of the Raja of Sattara, and his minister, retrace our steps ! Liberate the innocent man ! and place his accusers in his stead, until things are cleared up, which they may, at any time, be in 24 hours.

In this communication I have no other object than the attainment of the truth, which can only be the desire of every well constituted Government, and from which, I trust that of Britain more particularly in her relations in this quarter, will never swerve.

* * *

No. 54. All attention will be paid to the Raja's case. It was already with the Supreme Government and the Court of Directors. Nothing will be withheld from the authorities. (From Major O. Felix to Dr. J. Milne).

22nd April 1837

My dear Dr. Milne,

All the subject, which you refer to in your note of the 20th instant, has been long before the Supreme Government, and the Court of Directors, and I cannot apprehend that any document which the Raja considers necessary for explanation will not be received and considered. As I shall see the paper preparing for the Court, I will not trouble you to send it.

I always know that your motives are good, and shall retain the highest respect for you.**

* * *

No. 55. Explains the entire case of the Raja of Sattara and seeks Mr. Elphinstone's intervention in the Raja's affair. (From Dr. J. Milne to Mr. M. Elphinstone).

27th April 1837

My dear Sir,

Confident that you will ever feel interest in the affairs of the Raja of Sattara, who has been lately most ungenerously and un-

** Accompanying these papers there was a Maratha* letter from the Raja of Sattara to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors.

* "The following are the circumstances connected with the fraudulent conduct of Koosha Yetna servant of Govindrow Dewan."

• English translation of the letter is given as the last letter in these notes.

warrantably attacked, he has requested that translation of a recent letter of his to the Bombay Government should be sent to you, transmitting the particulars of a detailed conversation with the Resident, referring to various points of discussion, but all having their origin in the demand made of him to surrender two thirds of the Punt Suchew's territory which happens to extend across the Nera River as the Deckan authority—the Agent for Sirdars—and the ill informed of this government, have conceived the idea (whim, I ought to call it) of making the river the boundary between the two States, as if any inconvenience had ever arisen from things as they were originally arranged by yourself.

The Raja would obtain no reply to his representations; and to this neglect to which he had never before been exposed, led the people about him to imagine, that his influence with the British Government was on the wane, and that his respectability and credit might be assailed with impunity. A most nefarious and infamous plot, therefore, was soon hatched by the connections of a servant of the Raja, who had been hanged for theft and sacrilege. They were incensed against the minister Govindrow, who they thought, contrary to his promise to them of obtaining forgiveness for stealing a Devi, on the discovery of the theft, had urged the Raja to inflict capital punishment on the culprit.

(Continued)

“Koosha Yetna was brother-in-law to Babia Bhosla hanged for the stolen gold image of the Raja. Yetna claims that the Devan had promised to spare Babia and yet he was hanged. Yetna's evidence against the Devan was that of a prejudiced party.

“The following are the circumstances connected with the criminal and perfidious conduct of Annunt Bhutt Gharag from the beginning till now.”

The document records eight distinct witnesses who testify that Gharag was a thief quoting incidents of the various thefts in which he was involved. This man perhaps had something to do with the accusation against the Dewan.

Statement of various circumstances and depositions showing the character of the men of the 23rd Regiment; and their enmity towards the minister of the Raja of Sattara, and to the Raja himself.

Doctor Milne has already referred to the soldiers and their enmity against the Devan in his letter to Mr. Elphinstone. They were against the Raja because on the arrival of the Regiment the Raja had according to the Resident's instruction (Yad No. 12 of 28th January 1833) told the merchants in the town that they should only give any article to the soldiers

This act rankled in their bosoms; but no means of revenge was devised, until, the removal of a Hindostanee Ghoveoo from Sattara, who had been set up by the Pardessee sepoy of the 23rd Regiment, enraged these men against the Dewan, whom they considered to be the cause, and who had also, soon after, further incensed them by occasioning the removal of the huts of the Detachment at Mahableshwar from the vicinity of his well and garden there, as he had no knowledge of their caste, and objected to their drawing water; on both these occasions these men threatened him with their vengeance; and you well know the intriguing and malicious disposition of that caste of men; and it so happens, that the two accusers of the Dewan belonged to the party removed from the vicinity of his well at Mahableshwar. They had found their way to the young widow of the executed culprit; and at the same rendezvous was found a brahmin of noted depravity. It was there arranged by this junta, under the auspices of the minister's servant that he, with the brahmin and the two sepoy

(Continued)

on payment of ready cash and that no one should lend them any money and if such a person lodged complaint in the Adwalut of the Maharaj the Resident would take no notice. The Regiment was known for fraudulent practices. These steps taken by the Raja had deeply incensed the soldiers against him. They were, therefore, circulating a false report that the Raja was preparing for war. In this statement the Raja said "What in the name of wonder is there to be done against the East India Company by corrupting one Regiment and what could the Raja gain by fighting with the Company. He has had the perfect authority hitherto without hinderance and yet the East India Company's Government listens to the report which evil-minded people have formed falsely accusing him and his authorities..." The Raja had told Balajee Keebay, the Agent of the Resident, that the soldiers openly said that within the next six months they will humble the Raja. Another incident was that of a Gosavee (priest) who entered the camp and gambled with the soldiers; he was driven out and came into the city. The soldier visited him in the city and the Resident told the Raja to remove the man from Sattara. It was done and the soldiers felt that it was the hand of the Raja and his Dewan. That the Dewan took umbrage to their staying in hutments near his estate in Mahableshwar and the use of his well is already known. The two soldiers Goolsing and Gooljarsing were at one time implicated in a criminal assault on a Soobadar Major who took them to task for carrying away another man's wife. These were the men who bore evidence against the Dewan for corrupting the troops. Maharaj said that he had never failed to supply all necessaries to the troops and had proved time and on that he had no enmity against them.

should repair to the Residency, where it seems, they were received and their depositions taken developing, as it was imagined, a most alarming and nefarious plot ! But is it within the limits of probability, that the minister should, after what had occurred, and his acts of imagined hostility towards the sepoys of this Regiment evince such folly, as make the proposal to them, with which he is charged, and for which he is imprisoned ?

As the accompanying papers contain minute details of all circumstances, and the deposition of respectable people I need not recapitulate them here. The copy of my letter to Major Felix will show you, that everything has been done with the cognizance of the Government, which, I am sorry to say, has by its intolerable supineness, indifference and want of ordinary penetration brought things into there present disreputable state, and led to disgrace and imprisonment of an innocent, zealous and upright man, and entailed discredit on a firm and respectable ally of the British Government.

The appointment of an intemperate and prejudiced man like, the present Resident, has proved a misfortune, and the extreme tardiness and indifference of the present head of this Government is a public evil creating very general complaints, which may end in turbulent disaffection to our Government, as it is at this moment exemplified throughout Canara and Malabar, which Provinces are now in a state of revolt and troops moving from all quarters to repress it.*

* * *

No. 56. Report on Satara by P. Lodwick, Resident, on the eve of his departure. (From P. Lodwick to W. Wathen, Chief Secretary, Bombay)

14th June 1837

Sir,

On the eve of my departure from this Residency I could wish to have the power of framing a comprehensive general report, but

* Elphinstone has made the following remark in his own hand on the letter. :

“ Answered September 22nd stating inability to interfere and urging against the inexpediency of intercourse with native Princes not carried on through official channels. ”

this is out of question, the Jumabundee accounts of the several jageers under the management of the Raja not being yet submitted to the Resident and even were this, the case, I could have no means of passing an opinion upon the disbursements, no notice having been taken by Government of my general report of the last year, in which false if not fraudulent charges on the part of the Raja were reported as having been rejected and others of a more qualified nature though irregular were submitted for the consideration of Government under the expectation of an immediate reply.

With respect to my immediate political intercourse with the Raja, I have to observe that on all affairs unconnected with the late Commissioner, the advice of the Resident has been attended to and business transacted heretofore.

The Raja placed 19,000 rupees at my disposal immediately after the monsoon to be applied to works of public utility and it has been employed in continuing the road from Sattara to the Neera bridge which is now completed with the exception of five miles.

I regret to observe that the Bombay disputes between the Raja's villages and those of the several bordering States are becoming more frequent and violent, and although His Highness was induced at my advice, to appoint members for a Panchaet in order to settle those of most importance, the system is defective from the want of independence in the parties. I see no remedy but the appointment on the part of Government of a person to settle disputes and fix or confirm the boundaries.

I have the satisfaction of reporting that party feeling and animosity feeling which ran so high a few years since in the Jageer of Akulkote, if not really extinct, is perfectly dormant. The young Chief has made considerable progress in studies and invariably expresses himself most grateful for the support and kindness of the British Government.

After five years of ineffectual attempts to overcome the prejudices of the people of Akulkote against vaccination I called upon the young Chief to exert himself to introduce so great a blessing, and with ultimate success, aided by the zeal of Captain Lyons and Dr. Felix, the practice is now becoming general and will save the lives of thousands.

Captain Lyons has offered the greatest satisfaction both to me in his official duties and to the young Chief and his family, and it will always be a source of pleasing reflection to me that finding the jageer involved in debt and the young Chief and his family discontented and unhappy, I have the debt liquidated with a considerable balance in the treasury, whilst the family have become fully sensible of the blessings attending the superintendence of British authority.

The young Chief is now fifteen years of age and as it is not unusual for the minority to end at that age of 17, I should feel disposed to suggest that in the present case there be a transfer of power, provided the young Chief continues to give proof of judgment and qualifications to justify it.

The minor sister of the Chief was married in March last to Nursing Rao Bin Jugdeo Rao Nimbalkur, a respectable connection and one which has tended to gratify the family. The expense was moderate and will appear in the annual accounts.

Adverting to the estate of Punt Suchive, I have to observe that as the jageer of the deceased Punt was attached by the British Government, and no reply has hitherto been received to my special report, I have considered it inadvisable to bring the subject of adoption to the notice of the Raja. The affairs of the jageer are in a very unsettled state and those who have well established claims upon it are naturally importunate, especially the ladies of the family, who have no means of support but the pensions settled upon them from the estate and guaranteed by the British Government.

I request being unable to give any satisfactory information respecting the Juth Jagger under the management of the Raja, my two appeals to Government in favor of a final settlement and the wuttun or enam lands, at all events, being made over to the Baee, have met with no attention or even the honor of an acknowledgement.

On a late occasion this lady appealed to me for my influence with the British Government or H. H. the Raja to advance Rs. 5,000 for the marriage of her daughter, and the Raja not objecting to the measure, it was adopted in part, but it is exceedingly desirable that a final settlement of this jagger should take place, it

being nearly two years, since the decease of the late Jageerdar. On this subject I beg leave to refer to my former reports.

In conclusion I have a pleasing duty to perform in adding my testimony to that of my predecessor Colonel Robertson in favor my native agent Ballajee Punt Kibbay, I have invariably found him faithful, intelligent and worthy of confidence, I, therefore, strongly recommend him for past services to the favorable consideration of Government.

No. 57. Lieut. Col. Ovans takes charge of the Residency at Satara. (From P. Lodwick to Mr. W. Wathen).

15th June 1837

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government the arrival of Lieut. Colonel Ovans and that he has received, charge this day of the Residency of Sattara

No. 58. Details of the treaties with the several Jagirdars and Chiefs in the territory of the Raja of Sattara. (From H. Torrens, Depy. Sec. to the Government of India to Col. Ovans, Resident, and his reply).

1st June 1838

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India to request you will furnish, with the least practicable delay a list of the Chiefs in your jurisdiction between whom, and the British Government, any engagement subsist, except the Raja of Sattara, noting the points enumerated in the margin. *

* Accompaniments to the letter addressed to Mr. L. R. Reid, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Political Department, under date the 7th July 1838.

1. Name of Chief and Estate.
2. Date of the earliest intercourse with the British Government.
3. Copies of all Treaties and Engagements with the British and date.
4. Extent and probable population of the Estate.
5. Probable Revenue.
6. Amount of tribute if any.
7. Name of the next heir Apparent or presumptive.
8. Military force and of what description.
9. If Jaggeer the nature of the tenure and rule of succession in the Family, and whether the rights of escheat appertain to the British Government or not, and if, in default of collateral descent or of direct heirs—male or female?

If the original treaties and engagements are in any language other than Persian, Hindee or Bengalee, you will be pleased to append translations of the same.

* * *

To. H. Torrens Esquire,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor General,
Simla.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter dated the 1st ultimo and I beg to request you will have the goodness to lay before the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India the annexed list of Chiefs within this jurisdiction between whom and the British Government engagements at present exist.

The different points enumerated in your letter on which information is required regarding their Chiefs have also been entered into and explained in this list.

As the original engagements are in the Mahratta language I have the honor to annex as directed English Translations of the same.

* * *

List of Chiefs within this jurisdiction between whom and the British Government engagements subsist, together with the other points of information regarding those Chiefs as called for in Mr Deputy Secretary Torren's Circular letter under date the 1st June 1838.

1. Names of Chiefs and Esiates

1. Shahjee Bhonsla Raja of Akulcote

This Chief is about seventeen years of age. He resides at Akulcote, and his estate is comprised of the Purguna of Akulcote and other detached villages and Umls (rights).

2. Punt Pritty Niddy Porushram Shreeneewas

This Chief is about sixty years of age. He resides Kusba Ound and his estate is comprised of certain villages in the Purguna of Kurar-Ound-Atpaddce-Bageywarree and other umls.

3. Punt Suchew

The late Punt Suchew Rugaonath Chimnajee died in February 1837. And the succession to his estate is under the consideration of Government. It is comprised of the turufs of Bhore and other turufs as also of sundry detached villages and umls—and include six hill forts. The greater portion of this property is within British limits, and it is at present under the management of the British authorities.

4. Bujajee Naik Nimbalkur

This Chief is about sixty years of age and resides at Phultun. His estate is comprised of the Purgunna of Phultun. The whole of this property is at present under the direct management of the Raja of Sattara.

5. Ram Rao Dafflay

This Chief died in August 1835. Bajeertee Bhye, his widow, resides in Juth. His estate is comprised of the Purgunas of Juth and Kurruzgee and other detached umls. It is at present under the direct management of the Raja of Sattara.

6. Khan Mahomed otherwise called Ameer Hoossein Wullud Shaik Meera Weekur.

This Chief is about thirty six years of age and resides at Wae. This estate is comprised of only one entire village with some detached portions of land and umls in other places. Those in Khandeish are only for the life of the present incumbent.

2. *Date of the earliest intercourse with the British Government.*

None of the above Chiefs had any intercourse with the British Government previous to the War of 1817-1818

3. *Copies of the engagements entered into by these Chiefs with the British authorities under their respective dates are herewith annexed.*

(No treaties were enclosed with this document)

4. *Extent and probable population of their Estates and Revenues.*

1. The Estate of Shahjee Bhonsla Raja of Akulkote consist of 110 villages, of which estimated at about 60,000 souls and the revenue may be taken at about 1,50,000 rupees annually.

2. The Estate of Punt Prithee Niddy Purushram Shreeneewas consists of 92 villages of which the population is estimated at about 36,000 souls and the revenue may be taken at about 92,000 rupees annually.

3. The Estate of the Punt Suchew consists of 552 villages of which the population is estimated at about 60,000 souls and the revenue may be taken at about 1,89,014 rupees annually. It may be proper to add with regard to this estate, that although the Punt Suchew is a Jageerdar of the Sattara State the greater part of his possessions lie within British limits.

4. The Estate of Bujajee Naik Nimbalkur consists of 80 villages of which the population is estimated at about 30,000 souls and the revenue may be taken at about 90,000 rupees annually.

5. The Estate of Dufflay consists of 120 villages of which the population is estimated at about 24,000 souls, and the revenue may be taken at about 57,000 rupees annually.

6. The Estate of Khan Mahomed of Wae consists as above stated of only one entire village and lands and rights in other places. The population of this village may be about 1,000 souls and the total revenue of this Chief altogether is about 11,753 rupees annually.

5. *Amount of tribute if any*

1. The Raja of Akulcote pays no tribute but he is bound to furnish a body of one hundred horsemen for the service of the Raja of Sattara. The charges of which are estimated at 28,000 rupees annually.

2. The Punt Pritty Niddy pays no tribute neither does he furnish any contingent.

3. The Punt Suchew since the last adoption has been bound to pay a tribute to the Raja of Sattara of 20,500 rupees annually.

4. Bujajee Naik Nimbalkur pays no tribute but he is bound to furnish a body of 75 horsemen for the service of the Raja of Sattara. The charge of which are estimated at 20,000 rupees annually.

5. The Dufflay pays no tribute but he is bound to furnish a body of 50 horsemen for the service of the Raja of Sattara, the charges of which are estimated at 13,000 rupees annually.

6. Khan Mahomed of Wace pays no tribute but he is bound to furnish a body of 10 horsemen for the service of the Raja of Sattara—the expence of which is estimated at 3,000 rupees annually.

6. *Name of next heir apparent or presumptive*

1. The name of the heir apparent to the Jageer of Akulkot is Bowajee. He is an infant of about six months old. But there is also a brother of the Raja named Futteysing who would succeed in case of any failure in the direct line.

2. There is neither an heir apparent or heir presumptive to the Jageer of the Prithee Niddy.

3. The only heir presumptive to the estates of the Punt Suchew may said to be the child adopted by the late Punt Roogna-thrao on his death bed. But this adoption requires the sanction and is under the consideration of Government.

4. There is no heir apparent to the Jageer of the Nimbalkur but there are many kinsmen remaining of the founder of this family who may be said to be the heirs presumptive, though it will be a question to whom in particular the right of succession may belong.

6. Kean Mahomed of Wace has a son named Jaboon Sahib aged eight years who is the heir Apparant of his father's property. That part of his income, however, drawn from the British territory is only for life.

7. *Military force of what description*

1. Military force of the Raja of Akulkot is as follows:

100 Horsemen furnished as a contingent to the Raja of Sattara. These men are dressed and armed as Mahrattas and receive a monthly allowance not exceeding 25 rupees

30 Horsemen of the same description as the above at Akulkot.

200 Seebundees employed at Akulkot and in the districts for revenue and other purposes. These men are armed with swords and matchlocks and receive 4 or 5 rupees permonth.

200 Seth Sundeas a species of militia paid by assignments of land. These men are armed in the same manner and perform the same duties as Seebundies

530 Total horse and foot.

5. *The military force of the Dufflay is as follows :*

- 50 Horsemen dressed and armed as Maharattas furnished as a contingent to the Raja of Sattara receiving as monthly allowance not exceeding 25 rupees.
 - 10 Horsemen of the same description as the above employed in the Dufflay districts.
 - 150 Seebundees employd on district duties armed with matchlocks and swords receiving 5 and 4 rupees per month.
 - 125 Seth Sundees a species of local militia armed and employed as Seebundees but paid by assignments of land.
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- 335 Total horse and foot

6. The only military force of Khan Mahomed of Wace is the 10 horsemen armed as Maharattas and furnished as a contingent to the Raja of Sattara.

8. *The Jageer the nature and the rule of succession in the family and whether the right of a escheat appertain to the British Government or not? And if in default of collateral descent, or direct heirs male or female?*

The Estates of the Raja of Akulkote and of the Punt Pritty Niddy are considered to be entirely jageer. Those of Punt Suchew of the Nimbalkar and of the Dufflay are partly jageer and partly wuttun and enam and that of Khan Mahomed is partly jageer and partly enam. Then estates have been in the possession of the families of the present incumbents for a long series of years.* The nature of the tenure is defined by the engagement entered into in 1820 with the British Government and with the Raja of Sattara. In failure of direct male heirs adoption is customary but this must be sanctioned both by the British Government and the Raja of Sattara. The rule as defined by Mr. Elphinstone as to adoption is stated to be; "in all cases where there are relation or descendants of the Moolpoorush (original stock) adoption should be allowed. Where there are no such descendents it may be a subject

* 1. Akalkot 130 years; 2. Punt Pratinadhi 140 years; 3. Punt Sauchew 160 years; 4. Nimbalkar 300 years (upwards); 5. Dufflay 300 years (upwards); and Shaik Meera 130 years.

of consideration whether adoption should be permitted." But it may be added it never appears to have been the custom of former Governments, and is clearly against the feelings of the people to crush those ancient families. The right of escheat as regards the jageer appertains to the Raja of Sattara for whatever portion of it may be within his limits and to the British Government for whatever portion may be within the Hon'ble Company's country; the wuttum and enam being hereditary property revert in all cases to the family of the deceased.

* * *

No. 59. The Resident's admiration of the faithful service of Ballaji Punt Nathu. Rejection of Rastia's claims against Nathu (From C. Ovans, Resident, to J. P. Willoughby).

26th December 1838

Sir,

In reply to your letter in this Department No. 2358 under date the 8th instant and the memorandum from Viswas Rao Rastia which accompanied it claim to a quota of 15 horse supplied by Ballaji Punt Natoo for the service of His Highness the Raja of Sattara, I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to submit to the Hon'ble the Governor in Council the annexed translation of a yad received from Ballajee Punt Nattoo explaining the circumstances of this case.

By this yad it appears that though a quota of 15 horse was originally entered in 1820 in the name of Viswas Rao Rastia, then a youth of 11 or 12 years of age, that 7 or 8 years afterwards viz. in 1827 this quota of horse then entertained in their stud belonged to Ballajee Punt Natoo and that this same body has ever since been in his name and considered as his property, nor has any question been raised on the subject until lately that the Raja has been endeavouring in every way to injure this faithful, zealous friend of the British Government not only in this but in other several instances, which however, from feelings of delicacy he has refrained from bringing forward but which are known to me and fully susceptible of proof.

With reference to what is stated by Viswas Rao Rastia in his memorandum as to my having returned his letter (thylee) to the Agent at Poona—this is perfectly correct but in order that the

reason for my having done so may be clearly known to government, I beg respectfully to forward copies of the correspondence with Mr. Bell on the subject, and by this it will be seen that I declined making any communication to the Raja on this subject without the instructions of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

It will I think appear sufficiently obvious from what is above stated that no case has been made out by Viswas Rao Rastia to induce the British Government to interfere in this matter, on the contrary—the complaint is evidently groundless—and as I have reason to believe that Viswas Rao, who is at present at Bombay, ostensibly on account of this business is involved in the intrigues at present going on there. I would respectfully recommend that this petition should be at once decidedly negatived and that he be advised to return to Poona.

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No. 60. Various demands of the dethroned Raja of Sattara on his way to Benares. 1. A visit to the shrines; 2. Place of Residence; 3. His personal papers; 4. His money claims. Remarks on his claims by the Resident. A list of the Ex Raja's claims. (From C. Ovans to J. P. Willoughby).

28th September 1839*

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to submit to the Honorable the Governor that I have received several communications from the Ex Raja of Sattara the substance of which is as follows:

1st He wishes to visit all the shrines and holy places in this country before leaving it.

2nd He does not wish the place of his residence to be south of the Nurbudda.

3rd He wishes all his papers to be given up to him.

4th He wishes an arrangement to be made as regards his establishment and money claims according to the accompanying yadi.

* The letter is almost perished and makes difficult reading. It appears to be a rough draft because there are innumerable corrections, marginal and in the text itself.

To the first of these points viz., as regards his visit to the shrines I have made no reply and on this subject I beg to solicit instructions of Government. To the second viz., as to the place of his residence I consider my first intimation to him as sufficient viz., that the place of his residence would be fixed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India, To the third about the papers, I have informed him, that all the papers will at present remain in charge of the British Government as I told him personally when they were directed to be sealed up – And as regards the fourth viz., his establishment and money claims I must beg to refer the Honorable the Governor to the memorandum itself.

By this it will be seen that the Ex Raja proposes to entertain a monthly establishment to the extent of 30,345 rupees – also that he claims 8,75,300 rupees in compensation for public buildings at Sattara and 5,53,000 rupees for other necessary expenses of which 3,00,000 are for building himself a residence and for making gardens etc., at whatever place he may be sent to.

As regards his future establishment and expenses it appears to me it will be necessary to make some communication to the Ex Raja forthwith. It is evident from this yad that he entertains very extravagant notions on this subject – and he has at present a very large retinue and a number of useless followers at Neemb whom he will not part with, until he finds he will not be able to pay them.

Up to this time the sums required for his expenses have been advanced from the money claimed as private property in the hands of Kesowrao Akley, the private treasurer of the Palace. But I now beg to solicit the instructions of the Hon'ble the Governor on the following points

First: As to the scale on which further advance may be made for the current expenses of the Ex Raja while he remains at Neemb.

Second: What further sums in excess of the above may be given for the expenses of carriage when he moves from thence. And whatever sums may be necessary for these purposes had better, I think, be advanced as they have hitherto been from the money in the palace through the medium of the private treasurer – the same of course being regularly accounted for by him.

As regards compensation for the public buildings, as well as other State property claimed by the Ex Raja, as also other valuables and ready cash which are said to be private property, and claimed as such by both the brothers, I beg to bring to the notice of the Hon'ble the Governor the following particulars.

It appears that when affairs here were in Captain Grant's hands, a sum of 3,12,000 rupees annually was allowed for the private expenses of the Raja and his family and at that time also 2,00,000 rupees were given to build the new palace in the town. And afterwards when the mangement of the country was made over to the Ex Raja, 4,00,000 rupees was the annual sum allowed for this purpose and 1,00,000 rupees more was annually set aside for extraordinary expenses.

It is well known to Government that neither the Raja nor his family possessed any property whatever when this country was first conferred upon them by the British Government. The question now, therefore, is on what grounds the property now stated to be private is claimed as such—and in reply to this question I am informed that the savings from the annual allowances, adverted to in the following para, which have been allowed to accumulate or have been expended in jewels or in any other manner are now considered as private and claimed as such by the family.

On these grounds, also, it seems the Ex Raja claims compensation for any sums expended for public purposes out of this nemnook—although whatever be the opinion of Government regarding the allowance itself viz., first the 3,12,000 and secondly 4,00,000 per annum—it appears quite clear, that the lac allowed annually for extraordinary State expenses cannot be considered as private.

I have not yet ascertained the extact amount of the property above alluded to but I am given to understand there are about 6 or 7 lacks of rupees in hard cash and about 7 or 8 lacks worth of jewels and other valuables. The whole of this property is claimed by the Ex Raja but Appa Sahib maintains that about 5 or 6 lacks of the money is State property and private belonging to him as also about 2 lacks worth of jewels—and that the remainder only belongs to the Ex Raja and the ladies of his family.

The Ex. Raja, however, wished it all to be at once sent to him to Neemb. I objected to this and requested that lists might be

made so that the opinion of all parties interested might be taken. But whatever was required for immediate use of the Ex. Raja was permitted at once to be taken to Neemb, as well as money for current expenses.

I beg to report also that the ladies of his family were permitted to take with them all their personal jewels. List of the same having been previously given in and the private treasurer having been made responsible that nothing more would be taken. And in so doing I felt I only anticipated the wishes of the Hon'ble the Governor that these ladies should not be molested in any way.

With the exception of the above, the whole of the property is now being lodged in a secure place in the palace where it will remain in deposit, pending the orders that may be transmitted to me.

I beg also to add that complete lists of the whole of the property are also being prepared. These will show the property taken to Neemb by the Ex. Raja and his ladies—that actually in deposit as well as the portion of the latter claimed by Appa Sahib Maharaj both as public and private property. As soon as these lists are ready, abatracts of them will be duly forwarded.

It is obvious that it will be for the British Government to decide whether the grounds on which this property is claimed as private by the Ex. Raja and his brother..are admissible or not—and should the principle be admitted, and it must then be ascertained by reference to the accounts.

First : What money or property has been bonafide saved out of the family allowances.

Second : And what portion of this actually belongs to the Ex. Raja and what portion of it to his brother.

In conclusion, I beg to state that the whole of the management of this property, as also the preparation of these lists is in the hands of Kesowrao Akley, a highly respectable man, who has for many years had the superintendence of all the Raja's private funds and who seems to enjoy the confidence of all parties. And it only remains for me to add that every precaution has been taken to prevent embazzlement or chicanery of any kind, and that the property in deposit will be properly sealed up and sentries of ours,

as well as the people of the Ex. Raja and of his brother, will be placed over it to ensure its safe custody*.

Substance of four accompaniments to two yads from the Ex. Raja of Sattara under date the 14th Sept. 1839.

1. The estimated monthly charge for the men etc., who are to accompany is :

600 sepoy—for whom the probable charge per moth is . . 3,200

882 jasoods, chaprasees, hulkaras, etc., charge per month . . 5,495

1. Beasts—1,631

1,000 bullocks	6,000	
200 tattoos (hired)	3,600	
50 horses	750	
6 elephants	5,000	
75 chukras (carts) or 225 camels	5,700	21,650
Total Rs.		30,345

2. The money value of the building etc., which are here should come to 4,77,500

3. The expenses incurred for the gardens 76,400

4. For building of the Rang Mahal 5,000

5. Glass furniture 1,00,000

6. Charities etc., 27,200

7. Looking Glasses 1,65,200

8. Four guns belonging to the Khasgee together with their bullocks 24,000

8,75,300

The other items to be sold by auction and their money value to be received are :

1. The herd of cattle; 2. the flock of sheep and pats; 3. after taking such number of the cattle at Sattara as may be required the rest is to be sold; 4. sheries; 5. gardens and the bullocks belonging to the gardens; 6. four ambarees, the apparatus of palkhee's pats (stools), vessels, wooden ware, deveras

* Those who accompanied the Raja.

(frames for idols), chowrungs (square stools) ghowlas (swinging seats) etc., are to be sold by auction. We have enumerated these articles from memory—but if the talebands of Kesrao and Babajee be taken and referred to it will be known.

Another Yad:

For a place required for the residence of the Surkar and the Senaputty	2,00,000
Estimated charge for providing accomodation for the families of the Mundullees	1,58,250
To make gardens, mango plantations and other trees	1,00,000
Charge for bringing the families of the Mundullees	50,000
To send to the home of the Mundullees	25,000
Extra expences for the visits to be made to Devs etc.,	14,003
For repairing the Surkaree surungain (?)	5,000
Charge for the carcoons etc., who may be left to superintend our effects which may remain at Sattara	750
	Rupees 5, 53,000

* * *

No. 61. The enthronement of the new Raja on the throne of Sattara and arrangements for the removal of the Ex Raja to Benares. Letter from the Secretary to the Government of India accusing the Ex Raja of gross infractions of the treaty with the British Government and the charges proved beyond doubt. Hence his guilt inexcusable. (From J. P. Willoughby to the Resident, at Sattara)

10th November 1839

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Governor to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of a letter dated 24th ultimo from the officiating Secretary to the Government of India with the Right Hon'ble the Governor General, conveying the sentiments of His Lordship on the proceedings of this Government in respect to the deposal of the late Raja of Sattara and the proclaiming of his brother as his successor, and to inform you that it is the intention of the Hon'ble the Governor in a few days to revisit Sattara for the purpose of being present at the formal installation of the Rajah, meeting the Jageerhdars

who are now assembled there, and making arrangements for the removal to Benares of the Ex Raja.

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24th October 1839

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th ultimo transmitting a minute of the Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay and other documents relative to the deposal of the late Raja of Sattara and the proclaiming the brother as his successor.

These papers have been persued by the Governor General with the utmost attention and I am directed to express His Lordship's full conviction that after the obstinate refusal by the Raja of the very lenient terms which were offered to him by the Governor, as the conditions on which the amnesty was to be granted for his past conduct aggravated as that refusal was by the clearest indications of the ungrateful and ambitious spirit by which he has been animated, there was no course left but to depose him from power.

That the Raja had been guilty of gross infractions of his treaty with the British Government was already proved to the satisfaction of the highest authorities in this country, to which the evidence on the subject had been submitted, and his breach of faith, as regards the most important charge that of tempering with the sepais, had been established after an inquiry in which the fullest opportunity of clearing himself had been afforded to him. The sentiments of the Governor General on the case had been recorded after mature deliberation in his minute of 23rd September and 29th December 1838, and His Lordship can only now repeat his complete persuasion of the Raja's inexcusable guilt.

The Raja evidently, on his own admission, held the treaty to be hardly binding upon him, and objected principally to give the assurance required from him, because it was to be viewed as a second ratification and confirmation of the most important stipulations of that treaty. Under all the circumstances therefore, His Lordship is prepared to give his full sanction and support to the measure of deposition to which His Honor the Governor was reluctantly compelled to resort.

On the subject of what was most fitting to be done, after the deposal of the Raja was effected, there may be a question which His Lordship need not now discuss at length. He attaches great weight to the arguments which are adduced by the Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay in favor of the measure which he adopted of raising the Raja's brother to the vacant throne, and had already offered the sanction of his authority to that measure, if the governor should see fit to decide upon it, and the peaceful manner in which the change has been effected, and the promise of improved Government which has ensued, are circumstances strongly in favor of that course. His Lordship, indeed, as will be seen in papers heretofore written by him, would have hesitated on this precise measure, but the settlement of this long pending case having been deferred by the express desire of the Home authorities, with a distinct statement of His Lordship's sentiments on all points of fact and policy before them, till the arrival of the present Governor of Bombay and His Honor being fully acquainted with their views regarding it, His Lordship felt it proper to leave his discretion unfettered and having taken upon himself the responsibility of the general power which he delegated to His Honor on this part of the case, it only remains for him to wait the judgment of the Hon'ble Court on the course which has been actually followed.

In fixing the amount of stipend to be allowed to the Ex Raja out of the Sattara revenues, the Governor General will request the Hon'ble the Governor of Bombay, who must be the best judge of what sum will be requisite to provide for this unfortunately misguided Prince, to decide upon the amount of his income.

His Lordship sees no objection to Benares being selected as the future place of residence of the Ex Raja, and will direct arrangements to be made for his reception as soon as he is informed that he has left the Decken in progress to that city.

The Treaty which has been framed with the present Raja of Sattara is herewith returned duly ratified.

His Lordship may take another opportunity of adverting to other topics introduced in the minute of the Hon'ble the Governor, and he only thinks it necessary on the present occasion further to express his best thanks to His Honor for the anxious attention which he has bestowed upon this subject, and to record his satisfaction that the change of Government at Sattara, under the

judicious arrangements of Colonel Ovans, was happily effected without bloodshed or disturbance.

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No. 62. Letter regarding provisions assigned to the Ex Raja and his family and arrangements for his removal to Benares be borne by the Sattara Government. Bala Sahib Senapaty banished from Sattara. Lieut. Cristal to accompany the Ex Raja to Benares and send weekly reports of the journey. (From by J. P. Willough by to Lieut. Col. C. Ovans).

21st November 1839

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 10th instant I am desired by the Hon'ble the Governor to communicate to you the following instructions, regarding the provision to be assigned to the Ex Raja of Sattara and his family and the measures to be adopted for removing him to Benares, which you are aware is the place which has been selected for his future residence by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India.

Subject to the confirmation of the Governor General of India it has been resolved that an allowance of one lakh and twenty thousand rupees (1,20,000) per annum shall be granted to the Ex Raja and his family in instalments of ten thousand rupees (10,000) monthly by the Sattara Government.

In order to obviate future misunderstanding and dispute it has been further determined, that this allowance will be distributed in the following proportions, and shall terminate on the death of the respective parties.

To the Raja of Sattara Rs. 7,700 per mensem Rs. 92,400 per annum			
To his first wife	1,000	„	12,000 „
To his second wife	800	„	9,600 „
To his daughter	500	„	6,000 „
	<u>10,000</u>		<u>1,20,000</u>

These pensions are fixed in the Sattara currency, and will be paid at Benares in such manner, as may hereafter be arranged by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India. They are to commence from 5th September last, the date on which the Ex Raja

was deposed, any advances which he may have intermediately received being deducted therefrom.

You will be pleased to intimate to the Ex Raja the place selected for his future residence; to pensions assigned to himself and family in full satisfaction of full demands against the Sattara, State and inform him that it is expected he will be prepared to move on certain date to be fixed by yourself, with reference to the time required conveniently to make the necessary preliminary arrangements.

In addition to the pension for life, enumerated in the 3rd paragraph, the Hon'ble the Governor is of opinion that all necessary expenses incurred in removing the Ex Raja to Benares should be borne by the Sattara Government. These should however be regulated as economically as possible but with a due and proper attention to the comfort and convenience of the Ex Raja and his family.

It is necessary to limit the number of persons who are to accompany the Ex Raja, the Hon'ble the Governor is of opinion that they should not exceed one hundred, exclusive of humalls. The selection of persons under the above restrictions should be left to the Ex Raja.

In regard to Balla Sahib Senaputty, the confident of the Ex Raja, and the active participator in his various intrigues, the Hon'ble the Governor is pleased to direct that he should be allowed the option, either of accompanying the Ex Raja, or of returning to his jaghir village of Wae of the Purgunnah of Sungumnair in the Ahmednagar Collectorate.

In the latter case, the Senaputty will be placed under surveillance of the Magistrate of Ahmednuggur, and be informed that for the present he will not be permitted to return to Sattara or to any other part of its territories without the sanction of the British Government.

The Ex Raja of Sattara, according to the information contained in your letter dated the 28th September last, has advanced claims to the money in deposit in the treasury, and to jewels and other property, clearly appertaining to the State. On this point it will be sufficient for the present to inform him, that these claims

will be referred for the decision of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India.

The Hon'ble the Governor has been pleased on your recommendation to appoint Lieutenant Cristall of the 8th Regiment Native Infantry, to accompany the Ex Raja to Benaras. And while employed on this duty this officer will be permitted to draw a salary of rupees five hundred per mensem, in addition to his Regimental pay and allowances.

The Hon'ble the Governor is of opinion that an escort of 200 Native Infantry should proceed with the Ex. Raja, and that as far as Mhow this escort may be most conveniently furnished by the 8th Regiment now at Sattara. A medical officer should be attached to this detachment, on such allowances as may be admissible by the existing medical regulations.

A small party of horse, a trustworthy carkoon with a suitable establishment should be furnished by the Sattara Government and placed under Lieut. Cristall's orders.

You will be pleased to issue such instructions to Lieut. Cristall as you may deem necessary and furnish him with letters addressed to the Chief Civil and Military authorities on his route, informing them of the special nature of the duty on which he is deputed and requesting their aid in providing him with funds carriage and supplies.

The Hon'ble the Governor thinks it advisable that the Ex. Raja should not proceed through any part of the territories of the Raja of Nagpoor on the route to his destination. You are requested to report the date on which the Ex. Raja will commence his march to report to Benares and furnish the route by which he will proceed, specifying the probable date of his arrival at each station. On the receipt of this information a circular will be issued by Government to several authorities Civil and Military to the effect stated in the preceding para.

All expenses incurred by the British Government in removing the Ex. Raja to Benares are to be defrayed by the Sattara Government. You will be pleased to furnish Lieut. Cristall with a scale of expenditure for the journey, as far as the same can be estimated, and instruct him to keep and forward to you detailed account of his disbursements. As Lieut. Cristall will be provided with letters of credit on the local treasuries, and whilst in progress

to Benares, it does not appear necessary that he should be supplied at Sattara with funds to a considerable extent.

Liaut, Cristall * should be directed to report immediately any events of importance and to forward to you weekly reports of his progress, copies of which should be transmitted to Government. On his arrival at Benares, Lieut, Cristall should be instructed to deliver over the Ex. Raja to the Chief Civil authority, and having done so, to return himself to Sattara with all convenient despatch.

In conclusion I am desired to request that the three flank companies of Native Infantry and Irregular Horse from Poona, may be directed to return to Head Quarters as early as possible.

Secret Department

18th January 1840

Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 21st November last, regarding the allowances to be assigned to the Ex Raja of Sattara and his family and his removal to Benares I am desired by the Hon'ble the Governor in Council to transmit for your information and guidance a copy of my letter..

From the 4th para of Mr Maddock's letter you will perceive that the Governor General has confirmed the decision of this Government as communicated to His Lordship..whereby the Ex Raja is permitted to retain the jewels and other property of value of two lacs of rupees taken away by himself and his Ranees.

All other property should now be declared the property of the State and be transferred to the present Raja, the allowance of rupees 1,20,000 per mensem being assigned the Ex Raja in lieu of all demands against the Sattara State.

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No. 63. The Committee to examine the charges against the Ex Raja though disinclined to consider the charges as serious, was later convinced of the Raja's guilt on the further findings of the Governor of Bombay, Sir J. Carnac. The Governor requested the Raja to accept the guilt. The Raja refused. Hence the Committee agreed with the Government of India on the steps taken against the Raja. (From the Committee to the Governor General of India)

* Lieut. Cristall was commissioned for the task in letter No. 198 of 21st Nov. 1839 by Mr. J. P. Willoughby.

1st April 1840

Our Governor General in Council

The following letters * * relate to the charges against the Raja of Sattara and the proceedings of your Government and the Government of Bombay thereon.

Our former communications to your Lordship in Council, on the Sattara case, will have shown to you that we were disinclined to attach serious importance to the allegations against the Raja, which had been transmitted to us by the Governor in Council of Bombay, and that we are desirous that the proceedings in respect to the Raja should be brought to a speedy close.

These views coincided with the sentiments which Your Lordship had communicated to the Government of Sir R. Grant but the case was still undetermined when Sir James Carnac was nomi-

* Letter from Camp Agra of the 19th December 1839 acknowledges letters from Mr. J. P. Willoughby (of 25th Nov. and 7th Dec. '39). "The Governor General is happy to learn that the ceremony of installing the Raja passed off in a satisfactory manner, and that His Highness has shown indications of an earnest desire to conduct his government in a manner that will conduce to the welfare of his subjects". His Lordship also confirmed the pension of Rs. 1,20,000 on the Ex Raja and blessed all arrangements carried out so far. Lieut. Cristall was to be relieved at Mhow by fresh arrangements by the Resident at Indore. (Mr. T. H. Maddock, Sec., to Govt. of India).

** Secret Letters from Bomday dated : 15th Sept. 1836; 30th Nov. 1836; 17th Jan. 1837; 1st April 1837; 28th April 1837; 24th June 1837; 19th July 1837; 16th Aug. 1837; 19th Aug. 1837; 25th Sept. 1837; 21st Oct. 1837; 23rd Oct. 1837; 27th Nov. 1837; 30th Nov. 1837; 28th March 1838; 5th April 1838; 19th May 1838; 1st May 1838; 1st June 1838; 12th June 1838; 3rd July 1838; 5th Sept. 1838; 7th Sept 1838; 5th Oct. 1838; 6th Oct. 1838; 24th Oct. 1838; 15th Nov. 1838; 1st Dec. 1838; 1st Dec. (No. 28) 1838; 1st Dec. (No. 41) 1838; 2st Dec. (Nos. 42, 44, 47, 50) 1838; 19th Jan. 1839; 31st Jan. 1839; 6th Feb. 1839; 25th Feb. 1839; 7th March 1839; 14th March 1839; 25th March 1839; 10th April 1839; 13th, 15th, 16th, April 1839; 8th May 1839; 12th Sept. 1839; 7th Oct. 1839; 28th Oct. 1839; 28th Nov. 1839; 31st Dec. 1839.

Pol. letters from Bombay. 25th Sept. 1837; 20th Feb. 1839; Secret letter from the Government of India, 3rd July (No. 7) 1837; Political letter from the Government of India. 20th Oct, (No. 53) 1837 (para 48); Political letter from the Governor General, 1st Oct. (No. 20) 1838; Public letter from the Governor General, 6th Jan. (No. 1) 1838; Secret letter from the Governor General, 7th Nov. (No. 42) Secret letter from Madras. 7th Dec. (No. 21) 1839.

nated to the Government of Bombay. On that occasion you were instructed by the Secret Committee to adopt no final decision “until you have had an opportunity of taking into your consideration such observation and suggestions as may be made to you by Sir James Carnac on a review of those proceedings”.

Previously, however, to the arrival of Sir James Carnac the case against the Raja had in the progress of the inquiry assumed a much more serious character than it presented when first brought to our notice, and you had taken a different view both of the Raja's conduct, and of the measures it was requisite to adopt towards him. Sir James Carnac having entered on an examination of the evidence, found himself compelled to come to the same conclusion in regard to the Raja's misconduct, as that which the late Governor and Council of Bombay, and all the members of the present Government of India had been constrained to adopt.

But Sir James Carnac, though convinced that the conduct of the Raja had been such as to involve the forfeiture of all the advantages of the treaty by which he was placed upon the gadi, and thereby to furnish an undoubted justification for his deposition, was nevertheless unwilling to proceed to extremities without making a decided effort to recall the Raja to a due sense of his obligations by treaty and of his true interest.

We concur in the views and sentiments expressed by Sir James Carnac in the minute, which he recorded on the 4th September 1839, and approve of his determination to proceed himself to Sattara for the purpose of offering to the Rajah, on the mildest possible terms, an entire amnesty for all previous infractions of the Treaty of 1819.

We deeply lament that the Rajah was so infatuated as to reject the liberal terms offered to him, and that the earnest endeavours of Sir James Carnac, exerted on four different personal interviews, independently of the intermediate visits of the Resident, failed of shaking his determination.

The articles to which the Rajah chiefly objected was that which confirmed the stipulations of the previous Treaty of 1819.

By this conduct the Raja left no course open to the British Government but that of removing him from the raj. In refusing

to renew the existing treaty, grounding his refusal on the objections he entertained to its provisions, he virtually declared himself not bound by it, and consequently forfeited all the advantages he derived from it, among which in this case was the raj itself, and had you shrunk from enforcing that consequence, such conduct, instead of being felt by the Rajah as an instance of generous forbearance, would have lead him, and probably other dependent Princes to believe, that they might safely indulge in contempt for and total disregard of their obligations to the British Government.

The Governor of Bombay with utmost reluctance issued orders for the removal of the Rajah from the gudee of Sattara, and for the elevation of his brothers to the raj. These orders were accordingly carried into effect, and our last despaches from Bombay inform us of the departure of the late Rajah for Benares and of the installation of his successor.

It now only remains for us to communicate to you our opinion on the conclusion which was unanimously adopted by all the authorities, to whom the evidence had been submitted, that the late Rajah had incurred the penalty of deposition from the raj to which he had been raised by the British Government. This opinion we give, and after the most anxious and deliberate consideration by adding our sanction to the approval which Your Lordship in Council has given to the proceedings of Sir James Carnac in deposing the Rajah of Sattara.

We also approve of the provision which Sir J. Carnac made for the support of the Ex Rajah, and of his arrangements in regard to his successor, who, we are happy to learn has given early proof of a wish to amend the condition and add to the happiness of his subjects.

There are other matters connected with this case to which we may find it necessary hereafter to refer.

In conclusion we may express our warm commendation of the conduct of Sir James Carnac in the transactions which we have now received. He proceeded to Sattara with a manifest and earnest desire to save the Rajah from the consequences of his own folly, and we are convinced that he left no means untried for the purpose. When this proved to be impossible, he adopted with

judgment and decision the course which circumstances had rendered inevitable. *

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No. 64. Intrigues of the Ex Raja of Satara and Ex Raja of Nagpur with the aid of Ragoba Bhat. (From C. Ovans to J. P. Willoughby).

20th June 1840

Sir,

With reference to your letter in this Department No. 46 under date the 14th ultimo and its accompaniments being copy of a petition from Ragoba Bhut Duntsalkar, I beg you will have the goodness to submit to the Hon'ble the Governor, that the circumstances regarding that person are carefully stated in my letter to Government in the Secret Department under date the 3rd March 1838 and its accompaniments – to which I beg respectfully to refer to as containing the true facts of this case.

By the above mentioned despatch, and the examination which accompanied it, of Ragoba Bhut himself, it will be seen, that he was deeply involved in the hostile correspondence carried on between the Ex Raja of Sattara and Ex Raja of Nagpaor – that his name is mentioned in that correspondence – and that he admits himself that he brought, on one occasion, a packet of letters from Joudpoor to Sattara, and that he was present at Joudpoor when a packet from Sattara was delivered there to the Ex Raja of Nagpoor.

As regards this petition, I need scarcely, I trust, observe that all the accusations therein brought forward are utterly false although he is a man of the worst and most disreputable charcter, he was treated with the greatest kindness and consideration whilst detained here – and he received, during the whole period, an allowance far beyond what ought to have been granted. As to his being banished when released – he was certainly directed not to remain here to create fresh intrigues – and peons were sent with him to see that he left this country. But this is not his country nor has he any property whatever here of any kind that I know

* Signatures to the letter : M/s. W. B. Bayley; H. Lindsay; W. I. Clarke; J. W. Hog; F. Warden; R. Campbell; R. Ellice; J. Masterman; C. Mills; H. Shank; H. Alexander; N. B. Edmonstone.

of. On the contrary he is a native of Khandeish and can have no right whatever to remain here.

But if he has any claims against any person here he has only to come and prove them in the Adawlut in the usual manner. Although, I beg very respectfully, to recommend that if this permission be granted he should be put under strict surveillance during his stay in this country.

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No. 65. Ramchunder Punt, secret agent of the Raja of Satara, accused of efforts to corrupt Government servants. (From C. Ovens to J. P. Willoughby).

5th September 1840

Sir,

With reference to your letter in this Department No. 123 under date the 22nd ultimo and its accompaniments being a representation from Ramchunder Khundarow Sutery praying that a pension may be granted to him, I beg you will have the goodness to submit to the Hon'ble the Governor, that this person was one of the agents employed at Poonah by the Ex Raja of Sattara on the intrigues in progress for corrupting the public servants of Government at that place and that the proofs of his guilt were discovered by the Magistrate of Poona and reported upon by me in my letter to Government in the Secret Department under date the 24th November 1837.

Ramchunder Punt was confined here, as he himself states, pending the decision of Government on the cases of all those concerned in these misdemeanours and he evidently was amenable under our own Regulations to heavy punishment. But he was pardoned and released by the clemency of Government, so that instead of a reward he should consider himself fortunate for escaping the heavy penalties he so justly merited.

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No. 66. The Ex Raja's futher demands for provision and the Resident's opinion. The division of other effects between the Ex Raja and his brother. The affairs of the Senapaty. The Raja's expectations to return to Sattara. (From C. Ovens to J. P. Willoughby)

5th October 1840

Sir,

With reference to Mr Chief Secretary Reid's letter in this Department No. 2050 under date the 16th ultimo and its accompaniments as noted in the margin * I beg you will have the goodness to lay before the Hon'ble the Governor the following remarks.

As regards the provision claimed by the Ex Raja of Sattara it will be in the recollection of Government that acting under the instructions contained in your in the Secret Department No. 197 under date the 21st November 1839 this point was finally settled before the Ex Raja left Nimb for Benares and he was then duly informed of the orders of Government by an official note addressed to him by me, drawn up in accordance with those orders, of which I beg to enclose a translation.

As regards this allowance I beg leave likewise to refer to your letter in the Secret Department No. 84 under date the 18th last transmitting for my information and guidance the correspondence noted in the margin * conveying the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India to the above arrangement.

After these final arrangements it does not appear to me that there is any room for further discussion on this point, and I think, it will be found that entering into any particulars as regards the Ex Raja's expenses will only involve us in trouble and difficulty. For if such demands, as these, are once conceded or even entertained, they will only lead to others which it will be found impossible to satisfy.

As must be admitted also, that this allowance of 10,000 rupees per month is most liberal, I beg leave respectfully, but most strongly to recommend that the Ex Raja be informed that the 6th

* Copy of a letter No. 499 from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, 10th August 1840 letter from Capt. Carpenter, Superintendent, to the Ex Raja of Coorg and Sattara, 24th July 1840 with copies of its accompaniments; letter from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India to Capt. Carpenter, 10th August 1840; letter No. 2049 from Chief Secretary Reid to Mr Officiating Secretary Torrens, 16th Sept. 1840.

* Letter No. 205 from Mr Secretary Willoughby to Mr Officiating Secretary Maddock, 27th Nov. 1839; letter to Mr Willoughby from Mr Maddock, 10th Dec. 1839.

article of my official note of the 28th November 1839 above alluded to viz., “ that this pension is in full satisfaction of all demands against the Sattara State ”.

That this is as much, if not more, than can be easily borne by this small State will be obvious, when I mention, that it amounts to nearly 1/10 of the annual revenue of this Government and that the remainder is barely sufficient to defray the ordinary expenses. Indeed, in case of any failure of the crops, it is not enough to meet the current demands.

As regards the property claimed as private by the Ex Raja the whole of this property was placed in deposit by me in charge of a European officer and a guard of our own sepoy, as reported to Government under date the 28th September 1839, until I could receive the decision of Government regarding it, and acting under the orders conveyed to me in your letter No. 18 under date the 18th January last, above alluded to, which conveyed also the sanction of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General to this measure, the whole of this property was made over as State property to the reigning Raja.

It may also be proper to add that all the expenses of the journey of the Ex Raja to Benares, amounting to about 80,000 rupees, have been charged to the Sattara treasury, no deduction having been made from the Ex Raja's pension on this account, and that the Raja and his family were permitted to take with them jewels and money and valuables to the estimated value of two lakhs of rupees, which strictly speaking, might have been taken from them and placed to the credit of the State.

In reply to the representation made regarding the detention of the Senaputty's property, I beg leave to report that a heavy claim was made on the Ex Raja's Government (before his departure) by the Raja of Akulcot at the time his jageer was released for unauthorised stoppages made from his contingent of Horse by the Senaputty, and that on my application to the Ex Raja he engaged that these accounts should be duly adjusted.

As the Senaputty was about to accompany the Ex. Raja to Benares and was taking with him all his property of every description, I received applications from the Raja to call upon him to settle this claim as well as others, discovered against him on the

records of this office, and at last he engaged to send an agent fully empowered to do so.

When the Ex. Raja moved this agent refused to act, and it was clear that this was merely a subterfuge to gain time and evade these claims altogether until the property was out of the reach of this Government. The Senaputty was, therefore, called upon to give security to answer the demands of this government against him, or to deposit property to the amount of the claim. He adopted the latter alternative, and this property is still in deposit here, and it will remain so until these claims can be fairly inquired into and adjusted.*

As this, however, is a difficult question it will require to be reported upon for the opinion of Government in a more detailed shape, and I accordingly propose shortly to submit certain papers connected with this subject for the instructions of Government.

Before concluding this report, I beg respectfully, to call the attention of Government to the part of the Ex. Raja's yad presented to Captain Carpenter in which the following words are used: "I am the eldest, therefore, until I again sit on the throne I want adequate funds consistent with the support of my dignity." Knowing the Ex. Raja's character as I do, I am induced to point out, what may have escaped attention as it will, I think, be obvious, that permitting him to indulge such delusive hopes and to employ such language in his official communications can lead to no good.

All that now remains to be done to prevent constant reference and dispute appears to me to be to inform the Ex. Raja that the yad sent to him by me under date 28th November is to be considered final and that the pension of 10,000 rupees per month in Sattara currency will be duly paid to him at Benares, leaving it entirely to himself, to arrange his expenses without any further inquiry on our part.

* From the correspondence it seems that when the Senapati died the Raja of Satara, under a false pretext, that he was permitted by the Resident, bought over the jewels in the keeping of the State. When the matter was known and reported to the Court of Directors, the President wrote to the Government of India to recover the jewels from the Raja and pay him the price at which he had bought them. Its displeasure was to be communicated to the Prince for his misconduct.

This pension was paid to the Ex Raja from the 5th September to 5th April last inclusive by Lieut. Cristall, and has been duly entered into the accounts of this Government. I beg respectfully, therefore, to suggest that the necessary orders be transmitted to Captain Carpenter to pay this sum monthly, commencing from 5th April last in Company's rupees, deducting therefrom $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent according to the regulated tables of exchange as fixed by the British Government, and the same will be recovered from the Sattara Government according to the instructions already communicated to me.

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No. 67. The Ex Raja informed that the Sattara Government will only pay Rs. 10,000 a month for his maintenance at Benares and he must cut down his expenses according to his income. (From Mr. H. Torrens Secy. to the Government of India to Capt. Carpenter, Supdt. to the Raja of Sattara, Benares.)

12th October 1840

Sir,

In continuation of my letter, dated 10th August last, I am directed by the Right Hon'ble Governor General in Council to transmit to you, a copy of a despatch from the Government of Bombay, under date the 16th September last, and with reference to its contents to apprise you that His Lordship in Council is under the necessity of desiring a complete revision to be made of the establishment of the Ex Raja of Sattara, for which rupees 10,000 a month can alone be assigned.

The Ex Raja must be distinctly told that this allowance is considered ample by the Bombay Government with reference to his circumstances and the means of the Sattara raj; and that it is, therefore, imperatively necessary that he regulate his expenses on a scale proportioned to the means put at his disposal.

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